

SOCCER

WEEKLY

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PULLEN SHOCK FOR APIA



BY BRAD EARL

ONE of Australia's top defenders is thinking about quitting — to concentrate on body-building.

Mark Pullen, Apia Leichhardt's dominating stopper, told me he may retire at the end of the current National League season, at the age of 26.

"I've been doing body-building for two years and I'm seriously thinking about giving up Soccer," Pullen said.

"The two sports have conflicting aims," he explained. "Soccer keeps your weight down whereas

you build up your weight with body-building."

Last year, Pullen was named as a Soccerroo candidate for the England series by national coach Les Scheinflug, but he was omitted when Frank Arok took over for the three matches.

Despite his consistently good performances for Leichhardt this year, he has been overlooked for Australian training squads.

His only representative duty was at the start of 1981 when he played for New South Wales against leading Yugoslav club, Di-

namo Zagreb.

"That was one of the best games I've played," Pullen recalled.

For the moment, Pullen is concentrating on winning the NSL play-off series with Apia Leichhardt in his 10th year with the club.

"We have a very good chance if we get our main team back together and are not hit by injuries and suspension," he said.

"In recent weeks we've missed Arno Bertogna, Peter Tredinnick, John Bradley and Bobby Parks."

Pullen said he would like to take up youth coaching in the future.

"The big failing in our Soccer is the lack of good coaches, particularly for players around 14 and 15.

"There are NSL coaches who at this stage of the season are still drilling teams into the ground," he said.

Leichhardt officials will be hoping to convince Pullen to stick with Soccer next season. His departure would certainly leave a giant hole in the centre of their defence.



□ MARK PULLEN (left) on duty for Leichhardt against St George's Andrew Koczka.

AROK BLASTED OVER STEWART BLUNDER

CONFUSION over the selection of one of Brisbane Lions' Stewart brothers, Russell and John, as a standby player for the Merlion Cup national squad has sparked yet another heated attack by Queensland officials on Frank Arok.

Queensland Soccer boss and ASF senior vice-president Ian Brusasco has accused Arok of not knowing Queensland players: he wants the national coach to abandon St George and attend the derby between Lions and Brisbane City at Richlands on Sunday week.

The selection blunder came to light last weekend when John received an ASF letter advising him of his standby selection and

outlining the proposed itinerary for the Singapore tour if he was drafted into the squad.

BY GREG RUSSELL

Russell, a former Youth Soccerroo, had been named in the media as being one of the standby players. The two brothers both play in the Lions NSL mid-field.

Brusasco raised the matter at last weekend's ASF Executive meeting, and said Arok and ASF secretary Brian Emery were unsure which brother had been picked.

"This whole embarrassing incident is typical of how Queensland is being treated. I suggest the national coach should come to Queensland and meet some of our players. He

obviously doesn't know them," Brusasco said.

Brusasco said "J. Stewart" was the name on the list of national squad players he had received last week.

"I asked Frank Arok and Brian Emery were they aware that there were two Stewarts in the Lions team, and had they definitely selected John. Arok was not certain and Emery said he thought it was Russell.

"I suggested they should check it very carefully," Brusasco said.

The Queensland Soccer boss said a visit to Brisbane by Arok was long overdue.

"The national coach is always welcome in Queensland and the derby would be a perfect opportunity for him to see our players. I will even person-

ally introduce some of them to him if he is unsure of who they are," Brusasco said.

"But the fact that there is uncertainty over which one of the brothers was selected seems to suggest that whichever one was picked, has no chance of making the final squad anyway."

Brisbane Lions officials are similarly upset over

CONTINUED PAGE 2



□ RUSSELL STEWART



□ JOHN STEWART

**Coach wants
relegation
for his team!
— Page 2**

EDITORIAL

WE must keep our fingers crossed that the Australian "B" team selected to defend the Merlion Cup in Singapore does not fall in a heap.

While the tournament is going to provide national youth coach Jimmy Shoulder with a heaven-sent opportunity to test his youngsters in combat, a grave risk has been taken with the inclusion of so many unknown players.

It must not be forgotten that the Merlion Cup is competitive Soccer as opposed to the tour by the senior Socceroos which is friendly Soccer.

While AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY pointed out some time ago that results on the Socceroo tour of China and Europe are of secondary importance, results are extremely important in the Merlion Cup.

In 1982 and again in 1983, Australia fought hard to win this important tournament in Singapore: it

would be a pity to undo that good work by sending a weak squad to the 1984 Merlion.

At the time of Les Scheinflug's sacking, some of the people responsible for evicting Scheinflug indicated that Australia had nothing to beat when it won the Merlion Cup. It was quite untrue but it suited them to play down the Socceroo's achievements under Scheinflug.

If Shoulder's "B" team manages to retain the Cup in Singapore, such opinions may have some semblance of credence.

It will be a magnificent achievement if the basically-young team named by Jimmy Shoulder last week can triumph. If this does happen, will the knockers claim once again: "Australia had nothing to beat."

The few experienced players in Shoulder's squad will carry an enormous weight on their shoulders.

Selection of Howard Tredinnick, Michael O'Shea, Richard Miranda,

Ray Vlietstra, Frank Farina and Tony Franken cannot be criticised. And it is good to see the budding talents of Chris Kalantzis, John Panagis and Alex Bundalo have been recognised.

The remainder of the squad must be classed as faceless men. We realise there were restrictions on using players with top five clubs.

Soccer followers must be asking ... who is Gregson, Kotzamichalis, Spink, Ingham, Barnal, Sharpe, Hooker and Jones?

Evidently coach Shoulder has faith in these young players. He would not have picked them had he not been confident they could do a big job in Singapore.

But it seems, in his desire to encourage candidates for the World Youth Championship, Shoulder has taken a big risk in selecting so many players who have not proved themselves in first grade football.

One thing is certain ... if this squad of bits and pieces returns from Singapore with the Merlion

Cup again securely in Australia's hands, we should have few fears about the future of the game in this country.

ASW wishes Jimmy Shoulder and his squad every success in the Merlion Cup.

Perhaps our fears for the team's welfare are groundless. Perhaps the boys will surprise us by knocking over the opposition.

But after closely analysing the make-up of the squad, we would have felt happier had there not been quite so many unknowns in it.

And while it has often been said that there is no sentiment in Soccer, it would have been a nice gesture if some outstanding players, who rarely win selection in national squads, had been given the chance to play in Singapore.

Players like, Robbie Wheatley, George Christopoulos, Joe Senkalski and Paul Daley would have strengthened Australia's hopes in the Merlion Cup.

The decision to leave them at home may prove costly.

'GIVE US THE ADELAIDE CITY RELEGATION BOOT' CALL

BY TOM McKAIN

ADELAIDE CITY coach Edmund Kreft wants his team to face the threat of relegation.

That may sound a strange wish, but he reckons it is the only way the standard of the game in Adelaide and Brisbane will rise.

"At the moment we are a

protected species," said Kreft.

"With no-one to take our places all we do is apply to the NSL and we are re-admitted if we finish in the relegation zone.

"The players and officials must feel under threat or they will not give 100 per cent effort.

"They may think they are, but psychologically they are not."

Kreft was speaking after it was announced that the Adelaide and Brisbane clubs would be retained in the NSL for next year.

"I now hope some form of relegation can be work-

ed out to involve our teams and the Brisbane clubs," he said.

"I am convinced that the threat of relegation is what has made the Melbourne and Sydney teams so competitive this season."

STEWART BLUNDER

FROM PAGE 1

what they described as an extremely embarrassing incident for the two players. They claim the matter should have been checked before the squad was named and made quite clear in any releases.

The Stewart brothers are completely baffled and mystified over the whole incident and preferred not to comment until things have been sorted out.

FOOTNOTE: as ASW went to press, it was announced that both Stewart brothers are on standby for the Merlion tournament.

CAIRNEY BLOW

BY GREG RUSSELL

BRISBANE LIONS leading scorer Joe Cairney is unlikely to play again this season.

And the loss of the star buy will hamper Lions' brave bid to force their way into the top five position.

Cairney, who signed on

a free transfer from Brisbane City earlier this year, netted nine goals and sparked the Lions' revival which saw the side move into the top half of the table.

But Cairney has been plagued with upper leg muscle injuries for more than a month. He was able to play for only 15 minutes against Parramatta Melita recently and now has been advised by doctors to rest for at least a fortnight.

Cairney's only hope of playing again this year is if Lions make the five in the National Conference and go into the finals.

The loss of Cairney leaves Lions very weak in the striking department and

to fill in the gap between the November 22 clash with Ajax in Amsterdam and the match against England "B" in Newcastle on December 5.

The basic Socceroo itinerary is:

Nov 3: v China for the China - Australia Ampol Cup at Beijing (Peking).

Nov 5: v China "B" at Beijing.

Nov 7: v Shanghai

Nov 10: v Canton.

Nov 14: v Manchester City.

Nov 18: v Nottingham Forest.

Nov 20: v Glasgow Rangers.

Nov 22: v Ajax Amsterdam.

Nov 28: v Red Star in Belgrade.

Dec 5: v England "B" in Newcastle.

Next July, the Socceroos will compete mid-season

with three other selected overseas teams in a fortnight - long tournament.

Thankfully for the sake of Australian club football the series will be extended no longer.

Then it's down to the nitty gritty of World Cup football.

Australia's commitments begin in Auckland on September 21 and end with the return game against the New Zealanders on November 3.

Also scheduled for the Socceroos will be a three-match home international series against the Chinese. The dates for these will be decided during the trip in November.

International commitments will be held at other levels as well.

The Oceania - Israel elimination series for a place in the World Youth Cup finals will be held in Sydney from February 15-24.

Competing will be New Zealand, Chinese Taipei, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Israel.

On top of that, the Australian U16 team will be in China for the World U16 tournament next October.

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KALANTZIS OUT OF MERLION SQUAD

BY BRAD EARL

SYDNEY OLYMPIC's exciting young left winger Chris Kalantzis will be unavailable for the Australian squad announced for the Merlion Cup in Singapore in October.

Kalantzis was selected by national Youth coach Jimmy Shoulder, but Olympic coach Manfred Schaefer requires Kalantzis for the club's National League top five series matches.

"I feel very happy for Chris, but he is one of our form players at the moment and we need him for the play-offs," Schaefer said.

Shoulder may also miss out on the services of South Melbourne midfielder John Kanesoulis.

The 18-man Australian squad for the Merlion tour-



□ JIMMY SHOULDER
nament named last week includes 12 players who

are in line to represent Australia in the 1985 World Youth Championship.

Shoulder admitted that the top five series restricted his selection.

"However, the squad will be very competitive," Shoulder said.

The oldest senior player in the squad at this stage is 24-year-old Mike O'Shea.

From October 24-28 there will be a training camp in Canberra for other players under consideration for the final Youth squad.

Shoulder's assistant coach at the Institute, Ron Smith, will take charge of that squad, with matches planned in Wagga and Albury.

"We will have plenty of opportunity to look at a number of players under different conditions," Shoulder said.

The Youth players who have been selected for the Merlion Cup are:

PAUL JONES (AIS, goalkeeper, 18, from WA).

ROBERT HOOKER (AIS, right-back or sweeper, 17, on loan from Sydney City).

ANDREW BARNAL (AIS, central defender, 18, from ACT).

AKI KOTZAMICHALIS (Springvale, Vic, central defender).

JOHN GREGSON (Parramatta Melita, defender).

JOHN KANESOULIS (South Melbourne, midfielder).

ALEX BUNDALO (Wollongong City, 18, midfielder).

DAVID SHARPE (AIS, 18, midfielder, from Lismore).

SEAN INGHAM (AIS, 19, striker, from Newcastle).

WARREN SPINK (AIS, 17, striker, from Melbourne).

JOHN PANAGIS (West Adelaide, striker).

CHRIS KALANTZIS (Sydney Olympic, 17, left winger).

Senior players selected for the Merlion Cup are:

ANTHONY FRANKEN (Canberra Arrows, goalkeeper).

HOWARD TREDINNICK (Parramatta Melita, left-back).

RAY VLIETSTRA (Wollongong City, central defender).

MIKE O'SHEA (St George, central defender).

RICHARD MIRANDA (Brunswick Juventus, midfielder).

FRANK FARINA (Canberra Arrows, striker).

On standby are:

Youth players: Theo Stamatiopoulos (West Adelaide), Mark Jones (Newcastle Rosebud), Mirko Runge (AIS), Robert Markovac (Melbourne Croatia).

Senior players: Graham Arnold (Sydney Croatia), Ralph Maier (Newcastle Rosebud), Kim Wishart (Brisbane City), Russell Stewart (Brisbane Lions).



□ CHRIS KALANTZIS
in action for Olympic.



□ ALEX BUNDALO
pressures Marconi goalkeeper Bruce James.



□ JOHN KANESOULIS (white shirt): the South Melbourne midfielder named in the Australian squad for the Merlion Cup tournament.

NSL - STATE RELATIONS TO IMPROVE

BY CON NIKOLOPOULOS

RELATIONS between the National League and State bodies will be revamped in the very near future.

National League manager Stefan Kamasz announced in Melbourne last week the formation of a seven-member committee, comprising State representatives, that will function alongside the Executive of the National League.

The specific aim is to facilitate dialogue between

the States and the League.

Kamasz believes that this special committee will improve the cooperation of the League with the States and will contribute towards solving problems that have arisen over the years.

It is believed the League has approached Michael Weinstein, vice-president

of the ASF and chairman of the Victorian State League, John Constantine, president of the NSW Soccer Federation, and Ald Ian Brusasco, the Queensland Soccer Federation president, to head the committee.

The resolution for the formation of the seven-member committee was passed during a special meeting in Melbourne of the NSL Executive.

League manager Stefan Kamasz also hinted that the League is keen to deal immediately with the appointment of referees to National League games because of the increasing disenchantment of players, officials and supporters.



□ STEFAN KAMASZ



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CHIT HAT



PETER KOTAMANIDIS' goal for Wollongong City in the closing seconds of their game against Marconi was only the team's 16th of the season.

Wollongong's scoring record has been woeful this season and they are certainly missing Phil O'Connor and Roy Cotton.

Coach Adrian Alston says if he stays on next season his first priority must be to sign at least one proven goal-getter.

"In most cases a coach has to start with his defence and build on that, but at Wollongong we urgently need someone up-front," Alston said.

"The likes of Peter Beggs and Glenn Fontana have tried hard all season but it is difficult for them to take over from O'Connor and Cotton."

Recently Wollongong went through a spell of six games scoring just one goal — a 1-0 win at Melita.

PENRITH coach Willie Wallace, well satisfied with his new team's performances in their debut year in the NSL, names Dave McIntosh as one of his top players.

"Dave has concentrated on doing the simple things this season," said Willie, "and that means he is using his ability to the full."

Wallace also praised Youth Soccerroo defender Paul Daley, saying: "Paul is improving with every match."

BRISBANE CITY and former Leichhardt utility player Alan Hughes wants to become a coach.

Hughes returned to Scotland last week, for family reasons, and does not know when he will come back to Australia.

"I will stay there for quite a while, but I want to come back here and coach a side," Hughes said.

If coaching was his aim, Hughes possibly left a few days too early, as City coach Joe Gilroy resigned in the same week.

WHAT have Dragon, Jimmy Barnes, Richard Clapton, Hoodoo Gurus and Machination's got to do with Soccer?

Wollongong Wolves and Sydney rock scene promoter Michael Chugg have got together to stage the "Rock with the Wolves" concert at Brandon Park Wollongong on Sunday September 30.

The proceedings run from noon to 6pm and patrons are booking from near and far.

Special trains depart from Sydney (9.22am), Sutherland (10.20am) and Nowra (10.20am). Return trains depart from Fairy Meadow and there will be plenty of car parking available.

Club officials predict success — and the funds needed so that coach Adrian Alston will have a much stronger squad in 1985.

JOSEF BISKIC is one of Melbourne Croatia's leading players in their impressive debut season in the National League.

Biskic, 25, left Yugoslavia three years ago to join the Victorian outfit, and he is a highly skilled footballer.

Team-mate Tony Curcio says there is only one way to get the ball away from Biskic — kick him.

"Even at training we have to kick him to get the ball off him," Curcio quipped.

DAVE RATCLIFFE has not given up hope of going on the Soccerroo tour in November, despite a serious knee injury.

The St George centre-half is not going to have an operation, as was expected.

National coach Frank Arok, who is also St George coach, said: "Ratcliffe has until November 1 to get fit. He is getting physiotherapy."

WHEN we asked Leichhardt coach Fil Bottalico how one of his star players was playing, Bottalico snapped back: "I think I'll teach him golf!"

In other words, the star doesn't shine very often as a footballer.

WEST ADELAIDE coach Sam Salabasidis is confident his team will have a dream run next year.

Not because of any new players, but because he doesn't believe things could go worse than this year.

The latest blow is a two-match suspension for his best defender, Brenton Hiern, on top of injuries which put Steve Atsalas, John Papzoglou and George Konstantopoulos out for the rest of the season.

SUNDAY September 23 is the opening date for an Ethnic World Championship being staged by the New Chilean club in Villawood in Sydney's south-west.

There will be 16 national teams taking part, representing Australia, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Germany, Britain, Greece, Korea, Lebanon, Peru, Turkey, Uruguay, Vietnam and Yugoslavia.

Venue is Garside Park, Granville and the first match is Chile v Peru at 5 p.m.

Other matches will be played on subsequent weekends, with the grand final on October 28.

It is hoped to make this an annual event.

SLOW-STARTERS ... eight times this season Penrith City have drawn or won games in the second half.

In four matches they have given the opposition a start and come back to equalise in the second half, and in another four matches they have hit a winning goal in the second period.

MARCONI striker Rod Brown looked set to score one of the best goals of the season against Wollongong City.

Brown, selected in the Australian preliminary squad to tour the world in November, broke clear of the Wolves defence, rounded goalie Natch Vardareff and in one quick movement slotted the ball home from an acute angle.

Before releasing his shot, "Brownie" had handled the ball and only the linesman on the far side of the field caught him in the act.

MOST NSL players religiously spend the night before a big Sunday game in the relaxed surroundings of home.

This wasn't the case recently when four leading NSL players were spotted at the Sydney Entertainment Centre watching Irish rockband U2.

LUCKY Sydney Olympic While so many other NSL clubs are desperately short of talented reserves, relying on first grade squads of 13 or 14, Olympic are blessed with a ton of talent waiting for first team spots.

In recent games, Olympic have had Terry Patalis, Gary Phillips, Alex Lambropoulos, Nick Theodorakopoulos and, of course, goalkeeper Peter Wilson all in reserve.

Each of those players is good enough to command a regular first grade place with most clubs.

WHEN the Channel 0/28 cameras go to China in November, they are likely to shoot more than the Soccerroos in action.

Producer John Rowley plans to take film of Chinese athletes training at the Institute of Sport in Beijing.

Wonder how it will compare with Australia's IOS in Canberra.



THEODORAKOPOULOS (front) shoots for Olympic.



TWO club-mates are competing for the place in the Australian team left vacant by Alan Davidson. The Melbourne Croatia pair, Tony Curcio and Peter Lewis, are in contention for Davidson's right-back spot.

Two other Melbourne players who were not included in the national training squad are playing extremely well at right-back.

They are Heidelberg's Ian McKie and one-time Soccerroo regular, Bobby Russell of South Melbourne.

PETER LEWIS overshadows diminutive Tommy Cumming at national squad training.



PAUL DALEY: praise from coach.

ONE learns to be patient when listening to losing coaches explaining why their team went down, but sympathise with Adelaide City's Edmund Kreft.

Looking through the scoring lists, you find that his team in defeat has lost only two games by two goals, all the rest have been by the odd goal.

How he must have been praying for the return of a Dixie Deans, the master of accepting half chances, and never missing "sitters."

COMMENT from Sam Papasavas when he discussed next year's World Cup elimination matches... "If Australia can't beat New Zealand this time, we ought to pack up."

The chairman of the National League was not downgrading the Kiwis — merely putting into words the feelings of many fans who were upset and angry when NZ eliminated Gutendorf's Soccerroos from the 1982 World Cup.

MANY people have praised the performances of young St George left-back Andy Kozcka.

He looks likely to win selection in the Australian team to contest the 1985 World Youth Championships.

Soccerroo team-mate David Ratcliffe holds the young fellow in the highest regard.

"Andy has been a great find this year and deserves a place with the youth team," he said.

LAST week at the St George Stadium keen Soccer enthusiasts had the chance to see thousands of dollars worth of Soccer talent on parade.

Both St George and Sydney Olympic were on different "training shifts."

St George finished at 7.00pm and Olympic, who left Pratten Park because of cricket commitments and are sharing the Saints headquarters, followed on.



ANDY KOZCKA (rear) keeps close tabs on Derek Todd of Newcastle.

LEDERER'S TOP JOB

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

ANDREW LEDERER, Australia's World Cup team manager, has been appointed a Commissioner to the Australian Sports Commission by Minister for Sport John Brown.

Among some of the leading sporting identities who will occupy positions are Roy Masters, Herb Elliot, Betty Cuthbert, Grant Kennedy, Alan Bond, Neale Fraser, Ray Lindwall and Glynis Nunn.

Lederer, the former Sydney City boss, said: "I am very honoured by the appointment and I feel an enormous responsibility to Soccer."

"My duties are not only to Soccer, but to sport in general. We want to aim to use the Government's fund the best possible way and to create more funds from the private sector."

"We want to take more kids off the streets and lead them to sports grounds around Australia for a better and healthier society. We want better coaching, sports facilities, more coaching for juniors and coach education."

"It really is a big job for sport in general."

Lederer may have been appointed as Commissioner to help sport in general, but we all know that deep in his own heart, Soccer reigns supreme.

The Federal Government has set aside \$7.5 million to fund the ASC.



ANDREW LEDERER



JOHN BROWN

COACHES GIVE YOUTH A CHANCE — AT LAST

THIS year will long be remembered for the many talented young players thrown into the fray of the National League.

When I first started playing in the NSL in 1982, you would be lucky to count the number of 17 or 18-year-old first team players on one hand.

Coaches were then very reluctant to select young players in the top grade.

It seems times have changed.

These days there is an abundance of youngsters breaking onto the scene. In just about all clubs there are two or three young but inexperienced players playing or pressing for first grade spots.

For instance, at St George, Andrew Koczka and Pedro Ricoy have been coming along beautifully in the first team. Both look certain selections for the next Australian Youth team.

One thing I notice is the amount of young players coming through the ranks of some of the newly promoted Sydney NSL teams.

At Blacktown, Michael McLaughlin and John Larkin have been regulars in the first grade team and their adjustment from the NSW State League to the NSL has been successful. Midfielder Brett Thornthwaite is another Demon to watch in the future.

Paul Andricopoulos has surprised many people with his performances for Parramatta-Melita. An U/18 NSW representative, Andricopoulos was playing

third-grade football for State League club Canterbury-Marrickville last year.

It's a pity that Eagles striker Wayne Farnsworth has been sidelined with a serious knee injury. He has exceptional skills, speed and an uncanny knack of scoring plenty of goals.

Penrith City coach Willie Wallace has expressed a great deal of faith in 17-year-old striker Randell Easthorpe. Having recently represented NSW in the

Australian Schoolboy Championships, Easthorpe is another player to look out for.

The influx of these new youngsters, along with the established players from the 1981 and 1983 Australian Youth teams, augurs well for the future of Australian Soccer.

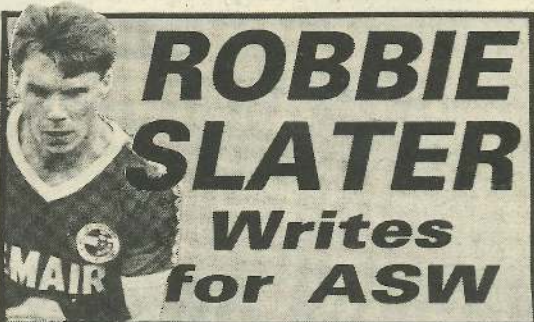
Sure they might be young and lack much needed experience but by playing in the top grade it can only further develop their game.



□ PAUL ANDRICOPOULOS (left) takes on my St George team-mate David Skeen.



□ MICHAEL McLAUGHLIN: successful.



STRIKERS DO HAVE LEAN SPELLS

SCORING goals is one aspect of my game that has let me down this year.

After returning from my stint with English club Nottingham Forest, where I scored 11 goals from 13 games, I was hoping to continue finding the net in the National League.

Many people must find it hard to believe I've only scored five goals this season. What's even more ironic is that I scored most of them when coach Frank Arok was overseas.

I'll be the first to admit that things haven't been going well for me in front of goal this year.

Such is my luck that in the recent game against Sydney Croatia my initial attempt at the Croatia goal was diverted into goal by Andy Koczka.

Two weeks later against Penrith City, I broke clear of the defence and in a challenge with goalie Mike Gibson I lost possession and team mate Dez Marton stabbed the ball home.

All strikers go through a "dry spell" at different times but you just have to battle on and regain some of that lost confidence.



□ PEDRO RICOY

PENRITH SWITCH

PENRITH CITY have rescheduled next weekend's match against Apia Leichhardt to avoid competing with the Victorian Football League and New South Wales Rugby League Grand Finals.

Penrith will play Leichhardt on Friday evening at eight o'clock.

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NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE MATCHES

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**PENRITH CITY v
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Cook Park, St Marys 8pm

SATURDAY, SEPT 22

**SYDNEY CITY v
ST GEORGE**
Sydney Athletic Field 3pm

**CANBERRA ARROWS v
HEIDELBERG UNITED**
Hawker Oval 2pm

SUNDAY, SEPT 23

**SYDNEY OLYMPIC v
PARRA MELITA**
St George Stadium 3pm

**SYDNEY CROATIA v
NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD**
King Tomislav Park 3pm

**WOLLONGONG CITY v
BLACKTOWN CITY**
Wollongong Showground 3pm

**BRISBANE CITY v
MARCONI**
Spencer Reserve 3pm

**FOOTSCRAY v
ADELAIDE CITY**
Schintler Reserve 3pm

**GREEN GULLY v
MELB CROATIA**
Green Gully Res 3pm

**BRUNSWICK JUVE v
SUNSHINE GEO CROSS**
Olympic Park No 2 3pm

**SOUTH MELBOURNE v
BRISBANE LIONS**
Middle Park 3pm

**WEST ADELAIDE v
PRESTON**
Hindmarsh Stadium 2.30pm

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

TEAM	AGGREGATE							HOME							AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
STH MELB	25	16	3	6	43	20	35	7	3	2	21	6	17	9	0	4	22	14	18		
H'BERG	25	13	7	5	36	24	33	9	3	2	24	13	21	4	4	3	12	11	12		
MELB CROATIA	25	12	7	6	37	27	31	8	4	2	21	11	20	4	3	4	16	16	11		
BRIS LIONS	25	11	4	10	36	35	26	7	3	3	22	17	17	4	1	7	14	18	9		
BRUNSWICK	25	11	4	10	31	39	26	6	2	3	18	15	14	5	2	7	13	24	12		
FOOTSCRAY	25	10	4	11	28	29	24	4	2	6	12	14	10	6	2	5	16	15	14		
PRESTON	25	9	5	11	40	33	23	6	3	4	29	14	15	3	2	7	11	19	8		
GR GULLY	25	8	6	11	31	33	22	5	3	4	19	15	13	3	3	7	12	18	9		
AD CITY	25	8	4	13	28	33	20	5	3	5	19	16	13	3	1	8	9	17	7		
BRIS CITY	25	8	4	13	17	33	20	3	3	6	6	11	9	5	1	7	11	22	11		
WEST AD	25	7	5	13	38	47	19	6	2	5	27	18	14	1	3	8	11	29	5		
SUNSHINE	25	4	6	15	20	51	14	2	4	6	9	14	8	2	2	9	11	37	6		

AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SYD CITY	25	16	7	2	60	19	39	8	2	1	34	11	18	8	5	1	26	8	21
OLYMPIC	25	14	7	4	55	25	35	7	3	2	31	14	17	7	4	2	24	11	18
LEICHHARDT	25	11	7	7	38	30	29	7	1	4	19	14	15	4	6	3	19	16	14
MARCONI	25	10	7	8	50	35	27	7	3	4	26	14	17	3	4	4	24	21	10
PARRA MELITA	25	8	8	9	23	27	24	4	3	7	12	17	11	4	5	2	11	10	13
SYD CROATIA	25	7	10	8	28	35	24	2	4	5	10	17	8	5	6	3	18	18	16
PENRITH	25	7	10	8	26	34	24	4	5	3	15	18	13	3	5	5	11	16	11
BLACKTOWN	25	9	6	10	36	46	24	5	5	3	24	21	15	4	1	7	12	25	9
CANBERRA	25	11	1	13	45	36	23	6	0	6	24	14	12	5	1	7	21	22	11
ST GEORGE	25	7	9	9	36	37	23	5	6	3	23	17	16	2	3	6	13	20	7
NEWCASTLE	25	10	3	12	31	48	23	8	1	3	19	14	17	2	2	9	12	34	6
W'GONG	25	4	4	17	18	55	12	3	1	8	10	22	7	1	3	9	8	33	5

RESULTS

• **SUNSHINE 1** (Latif) **CANBERRA 4** (Perinovic 3, Bennett og) at Chaplin Reserve. CROWD: 800.
 • **ADELAIDE CITY 2** (Melta, Villani) **SOUTH MELBOURNE 3** (Brown, Yzen-doorn, Davidson) at Olympic Sports Field. CROWD: 900.
 • **BRISBANE LIONS 2** (J Stewart, Niven) **GREEN GULLY 1** (Carter) at Richlands. CROWD: 717.
 • **HEIDELBERG 1** (Tasios) **WEST ADELAIDE 1** (Mousoulis) at Heidelberg. CROWD: 2000.
 • **MELBOURNE CROATIA 3** (Markovac, Lewis, Cumming) **FOOTSCRAY 1** (Carroll) at Olympic Park. CROWD: 3000.
 • **PRESTON 3** (Martin og, Dunn, Ilioski) **BRUNSWICK 0** at Conner Reserve. CROWD: 3000.

• **LEICHHARDT 0** **SYDNEY OLYMPIC 2** (Koussas, Katholos) at Henson Park. CROWD: 5595.
 • **PARRA MELITA 0** **SYDNEY CROATIA 1** (Borges) at Melita Stadium. CROWD: 4183.
 • **BLACKTOWN 2** (O'Connor 2) **BRISBANE CITY 0** at Gabbie. CROWD: 655.
 • **MARCONI 1** (Lowe) **SYDNEY CITY 1** (P. Falconer) at Marconi Stadium. CROWD: 1318.
 • **ST GEORGE 3** (Barton, Slater, Petkovski) **WOLLONGONG 2** (Vlietstra, Kotamanidis) at St George Stadium. CROWD: 960.
 • **NEWCASTLE 1** (Todd) **PENRITH 0** at Adamstown. CROWD: 1800.

TOP SCORERS

- 20 — Kosmina (SC)
- 17 — D. Brown (SM)
- 13 — Katholos (SC)
- 11 — Arnold (S. Cr)
- 10 — Bradley (L)
- 9 — Cairney (BL)
- 8 — Farina (CA)
- 7 — Jankovics (M)
- 6 — Fletcher (SC)
- 5 — Bryant (CA)
- 4 — Brogan (MC)
- 3 — Panagis (WA)
- 2 — Kalantzis (SO)
- 1 — Larkin (BD)
- 0 — Ward (BJ)
- 0 — Todd (NC)
- 0 — Latif (SGC)

THREE STAKE CLAIMS FOR ROOS

BY BRAD EARL

BLACKTOWN CITY stay with the pack in the middle of the table with the two points gained in their 2-0 win over Brisbane City at Gabbie Stadium.

Three players strengthened their national squad claims with strong performances — Brisbane City goalkeeper Kim Wishart and the Blacktown City pair, defender Robert Wheatley and attacker Phil

O'Connor.

O'Connor grabbed the two goals that gave Demons the vital win. He was full of confidence, turning players well and finding space superbly.

Coach Casey de Bruin

says O'Connor's selection in the Australian training squad has given him a personal aim to do well, and he believes this will lead Blacktown further away from the relegation zone in remaining games.

De Bruin also praised the performance of Wheatley, whom he says has re-

sponded well to criticism by picking up his game.

Wheatley came forward particularly well in the second half and, combined with the skill of Micky McLaughlin, continually tested Brisbane City left-back Garry Bromfield.

Wishart was in his usual dominating form and did well to charge down shots from Stuart Selvage and John Larkin.

The first goal came after only 12 minutes when Gary Byrne displayed his good

distribution with a ball into the centre for O'Connor to hit with his trusty left foot.

Blacktown consolidated their lead two minutes before half-time — and once again it was the Byrne-O'Connor combination.

The ball came to Byrne on the edge of the area and he chipped it in to O'Connor, who took it on his chest and scored from seven metres as Brisbane players unsuccessfully appealed for offside.

The visitors, shaken by

the departure of coach Joe Gilroy and missing two key defenders in Steve Perry and Mike Milovanovic, never looked capable of getting back on level terms.

Luchi Fabrizio made some thrusting runs from right-back, while Andrew Chapman grafted in the forward line.

But captain Frank Pimblett said there is a lack of depth at the club.

"We're relying on youngsters where we need more experienced players.

We're really three players short of being a contending side," Pimblett said.

BLACKTOWN: Hoare; Wheatley, Skellern, Dunleavy, Pointer; Selvage, Byrne, Sandy; McLaughlin, Larkin, O'Connor.

BRISBANE CITY: Wishart; Fabrizio, Bromfield, O'Maye, Liddell; Swan (Schiavo 89), Pimblett, Hamilton; Scriggins (Kowtan 69), Chapman, Mengotti.

REFEREE: R. Lorenc. CROWD: 655.

SAINTS SAVED ON THE BELL!

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

ST GEORGE got themselves out of jail seconds before full-time when their central striker Peter Petkovski hit the winner against Wollongong City at the St George Stadium in a 3-2 victory.

The Saints cruised to a 2-0 lead in the first half through goals by Mark Barton (sixth minute) and Robbie Slater (40th).

In the first 35 minutes, Saints created at least four goalscoring chances, but poor finishing and some great luck by Wollongong denied them further goals.

Wollongong shaped up to Saints with only two front-runners, Alex Bundalo and Peter Beggs, but both were starved of any quality ball-service from their midfield, which was minus their star, Larry Gaffney.

Just before half-time, Wollongong pulled a goal back when Ray Vlietstra headed in from close-range after a perfect cross by left-back John Fleming.

The first half was marred by some atrocious passing and repeated lost possession by both sides.

Wollongong caught the Saints off-guard three minutes after the break, scoring the equaliser through midfielder Peter Kotamanidis, who latched onto a nice through-ball from Phil Kerr.

Goalkeeper Ronnie Tilsed had a nightmare first half, but his second half performance emulated a Peter Shilton exhibition. Tilsed repeatedly blocked St George rocket shots that rained in on target as they desperately fought for the winner.

Petkovski finally got that vital goal as he raced into the Wollongong box to knock in a Pedro Ricoy cross.

After the match a much relieved Saints goalkeeper Terry Greedy said: "We got caught square at the back too many times and in the end were struggling to get the winner after leading 2-0."

A worried David Ratcliffe, Saints' international centre-back who missed the match through injury, said: "We failed to play the easy ball and made hard work out of it when there was no real need."

Man of the match was Saints right-back David Skeen, well supported by free-back Steve Zantides, whilst Wollongong were best served by Vlietstra and Tilsed.

ST GEORGE: Greedy; Skeen, M.O'Shea, Zantides, Koczka (Batten 72); Barton, Stone, Ricoy; Slater, Petkovski, Marton.
WOLLONGONG: Tilsed; Green, Vlietstra, Dummett, Fleming; Kotamanidis (Nees 74), Willis, Kerr, Condron; Beggs, Bundalo (Fontana 65).

REFEREE: P. Rampley. CROWD: 960.

PETER THE GREAT!

RASKO SHOWS THE WAY

BY TOM ANDERSON

MOVE over Alexander the Great... there's a brilliant modern day Greek general ready to take your place.

In fact, the way he is playing at the present time it will come as no surprise if the Sydney Greek community renames Olympic captain Peter Raskopoulos "Peter the Great".

On his present form, "great" is the only way to describe Rasko.

On Sunday in Olympic's 2-0 win over Apia Leic-hhardt at Henson Park, Raskopoulos looked the

complete midfielder and led his team by example.

He was their captain, midfield general, enforcer and anything else you like rolled into one.

I never thought I'd see the day of total commitment on the Soccer field from Peter Raskopoulos.

Now it's come, Australian football is much the wealthier.

Indeed on his perform-

ance on Sunday, Raskopoulos will undoubtedly be a key man in Australia's quest to qualify for the 1986 World Cup Finals in Mexico.

Both teams started very nervously in this big clash and mistakes flowed by the barrowload.

However, with Raskopoulos calling the shots and directing the traffic in the second half, the two vital goals came through

Mark Koussas in the 69th minute and Peter Katholos in the 84th.

By the end of the day Apia were a well beaten team and Olympic thoroughly deserved their victory.

Although it was a game that never reached any great heights, the outstanding performance and leadership of Raskopoulos stood out like a beacon on a foggy night.

LEICHHARDT: Parks; Bozanic, Pullen (Ziras 45), Bertogna, Brown; Butler, Gray, de Ceglie; Bradley (Van Egmond 77), Caban, Tredinnick.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier; Rogers, Dakos, Coady, Jennings; Raskopoulos, Katholos, Patalis; Soper (Phillips 62), Koussas, Theodorakopoulos.

REFEREE: G. Power. CROWD: 5,595.



□ **PETER RASKOPOULOS** (right) celebrates Olympic's first goal scored by Mark Koussas. Also pictured are Nick Theodorakopoulos (extreme left) and Peter Katholos.



ROUND UP

BLANCO WON'T CHANGE STYLE

BY KEITH GILMOUR

COACH Raul Blanco will stand or fall on Parramatta Melita's bright brand of football in spite of the damaging 1-0 loss to Sydney Croatia at Marconi Stadium.

After the closest of matches, Melita were joined on 24 points by Croatia and Blacktown along with Penrith City.

Blanco said: "All Croatia did in the second half was sit back and hope."



NELIO BORGES

"We continued to play attacking football. We took the risk and were punished for it," said Blanco.

Croatia coach Vedran Rozic told his team to capitalise on the lead that arrived through Nelio Borges in the seventh minute.

Melita's defence was cut to ribbons early. Apart from the tendency to work cross-field they did everything possible for success in the second half.

This game thrilled the 4,000-plus crowd and none did better than the two goalkeepers — Greg Woodhouse for Croatia and Alex McPherson for Melita.

Croatia actually were plumb unlucky — particularly midfielder Bernie Godzik, who had been pinpointing his raking passes to great effect.

Godzik ended up in Westmead Hospital with a broken elbow following a midfield clash.

Borges had not scored all year for either Croatia or his former club Sydney City when he knocked in a vital goal off the outside of his leg.

Nobody played better than Melita midfielder Don Allan, at his peak for the full 90 minutes.

But the Eagles are certainly not the only club fighting for their NSL lives in an unbelievably tight finish.

PARRAMATTA MELITA: McPherson, McAusland, Tredinnick, McGinn, Wilson, Allan, Jamieson, Farugia, Demanuelle (McKie 62), Andricopoulos, McDonald (McKie 64).

SYDNEY CROATIA: Woodhouse, Woods, Tomasich, Basic, Sterrey, Vidaic, Jurin (Kirwan 87), Borges, Arnold, Clinch, Godzik (Meades 44).

REFEREE: T. Davies.
CROWD: 4,183.

MAYHEM!

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

IT was more like a battlefield than a Soccer match.

That would be the most appropriate description of last Sunday's torrid 1-1 encounter between league leaders Sydney City and top five contender Marconi at Marconi Stadium.

The game was played in a hard and bruising fashion with no quarters given by either side.

Yet there were only two bookings — Marconi's Paul Carter (68th minute) and Sydney City captain Murray Barnes (33rd minute).

The result could prove costly for the Slickers as Soccerroo defender Steve O'Connor looks like missing the last three rounds of the competition after being sent-off in the 76th minute following a confrontation with Marconi midfielder Craig Mason.

O'Connor missed the Slickers previous two games through suspension and Slickers coach Eddie Thomson is certain to appeal against last Sunday's sending-off.

"I thought the decision was unfair. There were other incidents in the game that deserved closer attention," he said.

Marconi were superior during the opening exchanges and it wasn't surprising to see an attempt from midfielder Mark Jankovics cleared off the line by Sydney City defender Alec Robertson.

The Fairfield team were rewarded with the opening goal just four minutes later.

Marconi striker Peter Sharne pushed the ball through for team-mate Rod Brown and his shot was blocked by goalie Todd Clarke. David Lowe followed through and let fly with a brilliant curling shot which gave Clarke no chance.

This didn't deter the Slickers and a Murray Barnes

header, which deflected off Marconi goalie Bruce James, was cleared off the line by Steve Calderan.

Sydney City maintained their momentum early in the second half and almost equalised when a by-line cross from striker Grant Lee was blasted over the bar from close range by Paul Kay.

Two minutes later Barnes outjumped the Marconi defence and his header beat James but bounced off the crossbar.

Ex-Manly State League player Peter Falconer levelled the scores in the 62nd minute with a superbly taken direct free-kick from the edge of the Marconi area.

After the game, Marconi coach Les Scheinflug was satisfied with collecting a point.

"It's boosted our chances of securing a position in the top five," he said.

"Sure it was a hard game but I was really proud of how the boys applied themselves."

MARCONI: James, Carter, Henderson, Calderan, Spanos, Mason, Jankovics (Driene 55), McCulloch, Sharne, Brown, Lowe.

SYDNEY CITY: Clarke, K. Falconer, Robertson, O'Connor (SO 76), Gomez, Kay, Watson, Barnes, Lee (Fletcher 75), Kosmina, P. Falconer.

CROWD: 1,318.
REFEREE: D. Rennie.



□ ABOVE: Guess what Murray Barnes is saying to Paul Carter. Maybe it's unprintable.

□ LEFT: David Lowe celebrates his goal that earned Marconi a point.

□ BELOW: Steve O'Connor, restrained by team-mate Joe Watson, is shown the red card by referee Doug Rennie after a heated incident at Marconi.

PHOTOS: DAVID JELLINGS

MARCONI STADIUM ERUPTS



TODD SIGNS OFF WITH A GOAL

BY NEIL JAMESON

NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD UNITED could not have asked for a finer farewell present from striker Derek Todd than his goal which provided Saturday's 1 - 0 triumph over Penrith City.

Todd, who returns to England this week for trials with Bradford City, hardly had time to come down from the euphoria of scoring the Cup-winner in Melbourne on Wednesday before being called on to repeat the effort against Penrith.

Saturday's encounter bore all the hallmarks of a draw until the 77th minute when Mike Boogaard's header from Dean Milosevic's corner produced a miraculous save from Mike Gibson. Tragically for the Penrith goalkeeper, the ball ran free and, with only the narrowest of targets to shoot at, Todd scored.

It was Todd's 11th goal of the season and underscored his contribution to the NSL side since joining this year from the Northern Federation ranks.

At this stage, Todd has no plans to return to Australia but should he change his mind, 1985 could see him back at Newcastle where he has another season to run on his Rosebud contract.

Grit and perseverance in the face of a strong wind enabled Penrith to hold Newcastle scoreless at half-time, despite near-misses by Joe Senkalski, Ralph Maier and Simon Brandt.

Dave McIntosh, who along with team-mate Peter Brogan and Newcastle's John McQuarrie, received yellow cards in the first half, was almost transformed into Penrith's hero in the 47th minute.

The big defender's sweetly-struck drive flew through a cluster of players just failing to catch Clint Gosling out of position.

Newcastle responded by

seeking an outlet through Maier and the right-back's overlapping forays placed him highly in most "man of the match" calculations.

Penrith's defeat was made that much more bitter by the news that Ian Hunter had aggravated a hamstring injury and McIntosh had exceeded his penalty points quota.

Newcastle's McQuarrie is also due for suspension, meaning that coach Willie Gallagher will be seeking another replacement in addition to Todd.

NEWCASTLE: Gosling, Maier, Boogaard, Owens, Thompson, McQuarrie, Brandt, Senkalski, Milosevic, Todd, Jones.

PENRITH: Gibson, Brogan, Cross, Daley, McIntosh, Nix, Ainsworth, Hale, Cotton, Hunter (Jackson 59), Easthorpe.

REFEREE: J. Reeves.
CROWD: 1,800.





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STEWART IS A CAPTAIN INSPIRED

BY GREG RUSSELL

BRISBANE LIONS captain John Stewart, spurred on by his surprise discovery of Australian standby selection, was the centre of a controversial 2-1 win over Green Gully at Richlands.

Stewart had learned before the match that he had been placed on standby for the squad to defend the Merlion Cup and not his younger brother Russell as had been announced.

And John, the Lions midfielder, responded with a performance which resulted in one goal and won a controversial penalty which produced the winner.

Green Gully took the lead in the 38th minute when Les Carter brilliantly finished a good move started by full-back David Hogben.

Stewart netted Lions equaliser 10 minutes after the break when he weaved his way towards the goal and fired a low shot into the net from an acute angle.

Eight minutes later, Stewart won a penalty when referee Gordon Nicholson ruled the Brisbane player had been pulled off the ball by Gully defender Steve McLelland.

The decision mystified and stunned many at the ground and brought a heated response from the Green Gully bench, which included one official kicking a spare ball into the Lions dugout.

The controversy continued when Alan Niven took the kick and blasted it straight and hard past Gully keeper Lou Denys.

But Nicholson ruled he had not blown his whistle and ordered the former Soccerroo to retake the kick. Niven outsmarted the keeper by cleverly placing his second shot into the bottom right corner.

Although many thought a draw would have been a fair result, Nicholson had no doubts about the penalty.

"I was eight yards from the play and it was a certain penalty. The number 16 (McLelland) grabbed the Lions player and pulled him back," he said.

"I have never been more certain of a penalty in my life, I was 500 percent certain," said Nicholson, who also handed out four yellow cards.

But Gully coach Bobby McLachlan was not convinced.

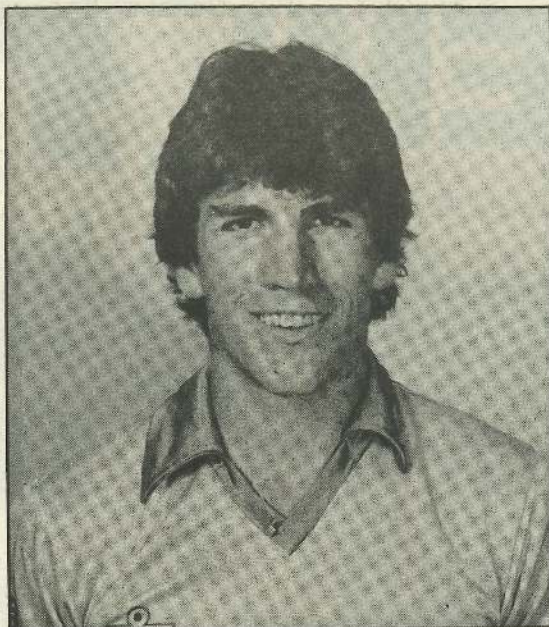
"Brisbane is notorious for this. We had heard the stories and they are right. The whole thing is an embarrassment to Queensland Soccer and I intend to submit a report to the NSL," said McLachlan.

BRISBANE LIONS: Farrow, Jackson, Hunter, Vasquez, Niven, R.Stewart, J.Stewart, Junna, McDonagh, Daunt, Anderson.

GREEN GULLY: Denys, Krajacic, Hogben, McLelland, Carter, Wade, Smart, McGuinness, Lewis, Smallman, Williams.

REFEREE: G. Nicholson.

CROWD: 717.



□ MARKO PERINOVIC: Arrows hat-trick.

ARROWS AIM FOR SEMIS

BY DAVID BECK

A HAT TRICK by Marko Perinovic sunk Sunshine George Cross deeper into relegation trouble.

Canberra has made a belated run for the semi-finals in the Australian Conference with a handsome 4-1 away win.

The Melbourne club officials can now start planning for their return to State League next year.

Perinovic opened the score after three minutes. But George Cross was on level terms within minutes

through Ossie Latif.

Canberra dominated until the break.

The teams remained deadlocked until the 49th minute when Perinovic scored his second goal.

Disaster struck George in the 58th minute when defender Gerry Bennett turned the ball into his own net and then Perinovic produced the final scoreline

right on full time.

GEORGE CROSS: Costello, Bennett, Taylor, Bain, Scerri, McLaren, Faulkner, Jovanovic, Toal (Courtts 55), Pate, Latif.

CANBERRA: Economopoulos, Ontong, Jones, Harkins, Christopoulos, Sermanni, Mihailidis, Bryant, Gibson, Perinovic, Reis (Farina 66).

REFEREE: C. Bambridge. CROWD: 1,500.

PRESTON HOPES HIGH

BY DAVID BECK

PRESTON is on the trail for a semi final spot in the National Conference after a convincing 3-0 win over a depleted Brunswick Juventus.

Preston recorded one of its best victories of the season after the critics had virtually written it off.

Juventus suffered by the loss of key players Brian Brown and Richard Miranda.

Brown went overseas to arrange his family affairs, while Miranda was serving a suspension.

Still, Juventus produced some exciting football and only fell down because its forwards weren't accurate.

George Campbell opened the scoring after 17 minutes. His curling corner slipped into the net, despite keeper George Martin's effort to deflect the ball.

Preston scored again right on half time from the penalty spot. Robert Dunn converted the penalty awarded against Paul Drinovsky for an alleged foul on Preston forward



□ GEORGE CAMPBELL

Claude Lucchesi.

The third goal came in the 54th minute from Zoran Ilioski.

The win lifted Preston to seventh position on the championship table and the team still has three matches to make the top five.

PRESTON: Wilson, Opasinas (Odzakov 56),

McMillan, Dunn, Ilioski, Dobson, Heys, Flavell, Campbell, Lane (Cole 86), Lucchesi.

JUVENTUS: Martin, Geremia, Drinovsky, Campbell, Dowie, Rogers, Cullen, Lloyd (Minichelli 70), Sweeney, Ward, Zinni.

REFEREE: S. Mellings. ATTENDANCE: 2,000.



McLEOD, OLVER HEROES

BY CON NIKOLOPOULOS

MIRACULOUS recovery by international goalkeeper Jeff Olver and centre-back Don McLeod saved Heidelberg the embarrassment of defeat against lowly West Adelaide at Olympic Village.

Both players passed a fitness test on Sunday morning and played major roles in Heidelberg's 1-1 draw against the youthful West Adelaide.

Though hampered slightly by his leg injury, Olver made some brilliant saves in the opening half and McLeod matched perfectly the outstanding performance of his centre-back partner Charlie Yankos to repel the offences mounted in the second half.

Sunday's game was another test for Heidelberg coach Brian Garvey.

Having lost Steve Marley, John Gabrielson and Joe Angele through injury, Garvey had to improvise to cover the void on the left of his defence.

In doing so, he surprised everyone with his decision to assign Scott Patterson full-back duties.

Heidelberg showed no signs of depression after last week's 1-5 thrashing by Juventus, particularly in the first half which they dominated with positive midfield work.

Their dominance was enhanced with a brilliant goal by Steve Tasios after 10 minutes. The youngster volleyed into the net after a Steve Winn pass.

The decline of the Heidelberg midfield in the second half allowed West Adelaide into the game. With Graham Honeyman, Ian McGregor and Tim Brown directing the game from defence, the visitors strung together some incisive attacks, one of which produced the equaliser in the 76th minute when Moussoulis broke clear of the defence and planted the ball in with an angular ground shot.

Heidelberg could count themselves unlucky on two occasions. Firstly in the 48th minute when Theo Selemedis scraped the crossbar with a header, and then in the 74th minute when Stuart Stevenson rattled the woodwork.

West had their misfortunes also: in the 55th minute a shot by John Kritikos found the upright with Olver stranded and 20 minutes later they had a second goal disallowed.

My man of the match was West goalkeeper Gary Sproul for his faultless goalkeeping exhibition.

HEIDELBERG: Olver, McKie, McLeod, Patterson, Yankos, Selemedis, Valentine, Peterson, Tasios, Stevenson, Winn.

WEST ADELAIDE: Sproul, Moussoulis, McGregor, Baker, Honeyman, Manou, Kritikos (Calandris 86), Panagis (Stamatopolous 69), Malavazos, Brown, Papadopoulos.

REFEREE: E. Venios.

CROWD: 2,500.

ADCITY'S HOPES FADING AWAY

BY TOM McKAIN

ADELAIDE CITY's hopes of clambering up the table and making the top five playoffs almost vanished in the rain and mud at Olympic Sports Field when League leader South Melbourne came from behind twice to win 3-2.

It was a class game despite the conditions. The pitch was heavy in parts and players had to fight driving rain and wind at various stages in the match.

In the end, City still held on to ninth place and with the other Adelaide team, West, holding Heidelberg to a 1-1 draw in Melbourne, South are now two points clear at the top of the table with three games to play.

Adelaide City can still make the five if they win their last three games and other results run in their favour.

City had their fans roaring in the 23rd minute against South when they were awarded a penalty after Steve Maxwell was brought down by Steve Blair.

Sergio Melta stepped up and took the penalty which Peter Laumets parried only to see Melta continue his

run to the right and tuck the ball in from the rebound.

Into the second half and the home team went hunting for a goal — but it was South who struck.

City full-back Paul Shillabeer and centre-back Neville Flounders went up for the same ball and as they collided it dropped free for Doug Brown to hammer a great shot past diving goalkeeper Willie McNally in the 59th minute.

The home team's chances improved again two minutes later when Charlie Villani charged down the left wing from his midfield position to cut a spectacular low shot into the South goal.

But the Victorians again recovered, this time through John Yzendoorn who scored after a Charlie Egan shot rebounded off McNally in the 68th minute.

The home fans' world collapsed in the 79th minute

when Alan Davidson ran into the box as Brown dummed a low cross from the right.

Davidson's shot struck McNally's body but still bounced into the net.

City coach Edmond Kreft had used Joe Cecere as an extra defender to mark Egan, but when it was 3-2 he sent on Peter Rankin as an extra attacker: South held out, receiving tremendous service from midfielder Oscar Crino.

ADELAIDE CITY: McNally, Shillabeer, Tobin, Nyskhus, Flounders, Melta, Gatenby, Villani, Maxwell, Mullen, Cecere (Rankin 81).

SOUTH MELBOURNE: Laumets, Russell, Blair, Davidson, Yzendoorn, Postecoglou, Crino, Egan, Brown, Kanesoulos, Kalafatis.

REFEREE: T. Martell.

CROWD: 1,206.

YOUNG BOB SPARKS WIN

BY HARRY HALL

AN EARLY goal by young Robert Markovac inspired Melbourne Croatia to a comfortable 3-1 win over arch rival Footscray at Olympic Park.

The win was compensation for the loyal Croatia supporters who were heart broken after the team lost the Cup final to Newcastle Rosebud.

Markovac netted after 60 seconds and shattered the confidence of Footscray which went into the game without its guest player Dragan Lacmanovic, who went back to Yugoslavia during the week.

Croatia maintained its lead until the 50th minute when Footscray forward Joe Carroll netted the equaliser.

Fullback Peter Lewis broke the deadlock in the 65th minute with Croatia's second goal and three minutes later Tommy Cumming netted the third goal.

David Brogan, Croatia's

target man, was sent off minutes before full time for allegedly using bad language at a linesman.

Brogan had previously been booked.

Although the championship title has eluded Croatia, the club hopes for better luck in the play off series.

CROATIA: Banovic, P. Lewis, Curcio, Parton, Hannah (Deankovic 51), Antolovic, Campbell, Gojevic, Biskic, Brogan (sent off 84), Markovac (Cumming 31).

FOOTSCRAY: Boland, Hazabent, Tutill, Kyriakouleas, Tansey, Karic, McDowell (Paton 46), Belic, O'Donnell, Carroll, Lujic.

REFEREE: J. Fearn. ATTENDANCE: 3,000.

AMBITIOUS YOUNGSTER JETS OFF

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

WITH the speed of an overnight package, young St George striker Scott Watson is set to leave Australia and trial with both Brazilian and English clubs during the ensuing off-season.

Watson's father is general manager of the "Kwikasair" transport company and it's through his assistance that he looks like realising a life-time dream.

"Dad is currently located in Brazil because of work commitments and I'll be over there in December for two months," he said.

"He has been checking with a few clubs and it looks like I'll be training with a couple."

Although delighted at the opportunity of trialling with a Brazilian club, Watson would prefer to trial with an English team.

"Dad was over in England recently and spoke to officials from second division club Luton Town," Watson said.

"It looks like I'll go there as well. Dad used to play for Luton before he moved to Australia."

The 17-year-old central striker starred for NSW in the recent Australian Schoolboys Championships and was rewarded with selection in the Australian Schoolboys side.

In fact, Watson was leading goalscorer for the NSW team which also toured New Zealand, scoring 13 goals in 13 games.

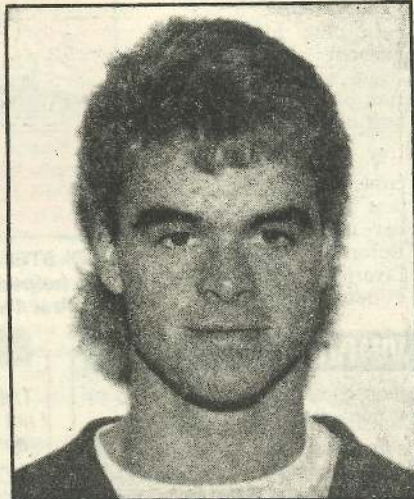
A Victorian representative at Under 13, 14 and 15 levels, Watson made the move to Sydney last year because of his father's job.

Now in his second year at St George, he looks assured of a successful future.

"It's a fair jump from the U16s to youth level but it's a great experience," he said.

"I'd love to play first grade and I'm hopeful of making the CHS side to tour Europe next year."

Playing in the Youth League side can have its setbacks. Watson is eligible to



□ SCOTT WATSON

play for the next Australian Youth team campaign but hasn't won selection in any of the preliminary training squads.

Like any ambitious young player, he would dearly love to wear the Green and Gold.

"Unless you play first grade there isn't much hope of making the squad," he said.

Watson's luck could change in the next few weeks.

St George and national coach Frank Arok has been keeping a close eye on the youngster and is impressed with what he has seen.

"Watson is one of the most dedicated young players in the club and has made many sacrifices," he said.

TODD SAYS FAREWELL IN FINAL

BY CON NIKOLOPOULOS

NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD outclassed favourites Melbourne Croatia to take out the NSL Cup Final — Newcastle's first major trophy.

The Northerners defied their critics and demolished a trouble-torn Melbourne Croatia to win the Final 1-0.

It was a brilliant exhibition of skill, aggression and perfect tactics.

Newcastle's Cup win was the best gift presented to the dynamic forward Derek Todd, before leaving for England.

Todd demolished Melbourne Croatia single-handedly and as coach Willie Gallagher commented after the game: "Toddy goes into the record book as the major contributor to the club since its inclusion into the National League."

Todd led his team by example, tearing Croatia's defence to pieces with his incessant runs upfield.

Newcastle had many winners on the park: Michael Boogaard dominated in defence, Clint Gosling performed brilliantly to strengthen his bid for the Kiwi goalkeeping position, John McQuarrie and Simon Brandt worked tirelessly in midfield, maintaining a constant supply of the ball to the striking trio.

Socceroo Joe Senkalski also displayed his class,

with some brilliant touches, but his distribution was not as effective as it normally is.



□ SIMON BRANDT

The final started at a frenetic pace with the underdogs taking the game to their opponents.

Croatia keeper Yakka Banovic received his first call to duty after 13 minutes when McQuarrie fired a rocket on target and Banovic tipped the ball over the bar.

Newcastle were re-

warded for their superiority after 30 minutes when Todd scored what was to be the winning goal.

The dynamic forward rounded Sean Parton on the area line and cracked a shot which Banovic deflected, but only as far as Todd who hammered the rebound in the net.

Neil Owens almost gave the equaliser away in the 40th minute with a miscued clearance to David Brogan, but the burly striker fired a shot which rebounded off the upright.

Croatia became more enterprising in the second half, mainly because doubtful starter Tommy Cumming was pushed onto the wing.

Cumming used his speed to carry the ball forward and draw Newcastle's defence to the side, thus enabling his teammates to mount their attacks through the middle.

Croatia's attacks, however, ran into a solid Newcastle defensive wall.

Gallagher praised his boys for, "a brilliant performance."

He said: "I have said all the way that we had the strength to beat Melbourne Croatia in the Cup Final."



□ DEREK TODD

"We dominated the game throughout and could have scored many more goals, because every time our exceptional striker Derek Todd was breaking forward Croatia's defence were panicking."

A dejected Melbourne Croatia coach Tony Vrzina commented: "We lost the game in the first half."

"I congratulate Newcastle for their win. They surprised us in the first half, and we found the going very difficult in the second half when we lifted our performance."

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Banovic, Curcio, Parton, Deankovic (Lewis 86), Antolovic (Campbell 46), Markovac, Biskic, Gojevic, Brogan, Cumming.

NEWCASTLE: Gosling, Maier, Boogaard, Owens, Thompson, McQuarrie, Senkalski, Brandt, Milosevic (Allen 83), Todd, Jones.

REFEREE: S. Mellings. CROWD: 3,000.

AUBURN'S FUTURE IN DOUBT

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

ONE of Australia's oldest Soccer clubs is expected to fold in the next few weeks.

Auburn, who finished fifth in the NSW State League this season, have failed to attract support since their merger with the Uruguayan community at the start of this year.

"It is doubtful if we will be operating next year as the merger has been a dismal failure and it hasn't generated any additional support," club secretary Fred Parker said.

The Auburn club played a big part in the early growth of Australian Soccer.

Parker feels that only a miracle can keep the club alive.

"Unless we get a major sponsor quickly, Auburn's future is in doubt," he said.

"Our only other options are to sell the club, merge with another group, fold altogether or go amateur."

"Really, turning amateur isn't an option. It would be impossible to compete."

This year, all three grades have enjoyed their most successful season in recent years.

All finished the competition in fifth place and one person largely responsible was first grade coach Lubo Goycovic.

This year, he spent less than \$500 on the transfer market to build up the first grade squad and achieved many admirable results.

"I got more than I expected from the players,"

Lubo said.

"When you consider how well we were going we had a great chance of making the semi-finals."

"The results were there but we seemed to struggle midway through the season."

"When you create something from nothing you should feel very happy about that," Goycovic added.

Auburn proudly boast the best defensive record in the league this year but the goalscoring department has let them down.

"We've needed a match-winner up front to convert all our chances," Goycovic said.

"We created so many chances but didn't score. It's very frustrating watching from the sideline."

Parker has been very impressed with the professionalism Goycovic instilled in the club this year. So much so, that he rates the ex-Sydney Olympic youth coach as the best to control an Auburn side in the last 10 years.

It's a sad reflection on the state of Australian Soccer when one of the oldest clubs looks set to dissolve. Only a miracle can save Auburn.



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BRITISH TEAMS TOPS IN EUROPEAN COMPETITIONS



□ PUSKAS: four goals.

IT'S ON AGAIN. This week heralds the start of the three big cups in Europe with the top clubs vying for the European Cup, the European Cup Winners Cup and the UEFA Cup.

The statistics show conclusively that British clubs have by far the finest record in the three glamour European competitions with a combined total of 20 wins.

This is double any other nation, with Spain and West Germany in second spot with 10 wins and Italy third with nine.

So much for the detractors of British club football!

The records show clearly that as far as winning European trophies is concerned, Britain is ahead by the proverbial mile.

The best individual scoring record in a European Champions Cup Final came in 1960 when Real Madrid downed Eintracht Frankfurt 7-3 in front of a

crowd of 127,621 at Hampden Park, Glasgow.

Real's Hungarian maestro Ferenc Puskas bagged four goals in this match with Alfredo di Stefano getting the other three.

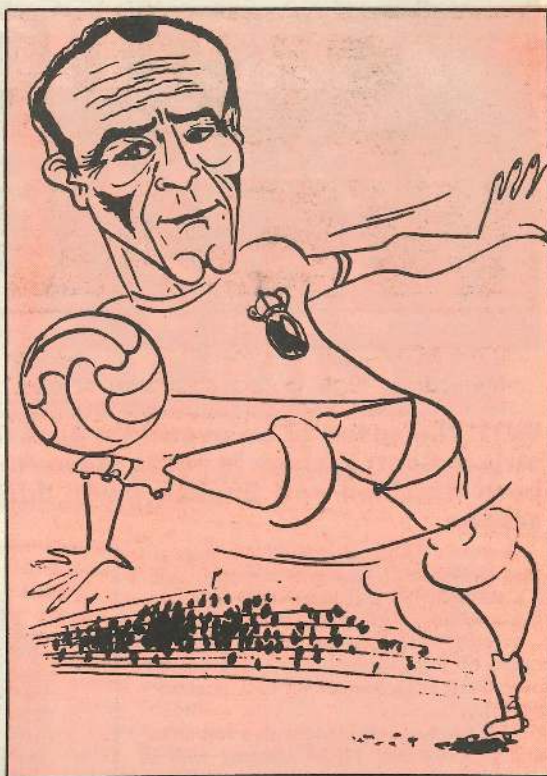
The only other hat-trick in a final came from AC Milan's Prati in 1969 when Milan beat Ajax Amsterdam 4-1 in Madrid in front of a crowd of 50,000.

In Cup Winners' Cup and UEFA Cup Finals there have been no hat-tricks, although there have been a number of players who have scored two goals on the big day.

No doubt this year's competitions will unearth new superstars and bring new goalscorers into the world's headlines.

In club football, the glamour of Europe now reigns supreme as a measure of the success or failure of all the top clubs.

To wear a European Cup crown means you are the best and if you don't believe me, ask the reigning European titleholders — Liverpool, Juventus and Tottenham Hotspur.



□ DI STEFANO: one of Real Madrid's all-time greats who helped the Spanish club to the European Cup for the first five years.

EUROPEAN CUP

THE most important trophy is the European Cup — contested by the champion clubs of Europe.

Liverpool, the reigning English champions, are the holders of this prestigious piece of silverware and The Reds will be hellbent on retaining it in their trophy cupboard at Anfield.

Over the past eight years, English clubs have completely dominated the European Cup and have won it on seven occasions.

This year, with the help of the mighty cheque book and the best talent from around the world, Italian clubs will mount a mighty challenge.

Since the European Cup first started 29 years ago, the trophy has gone to Britain on nine occasions, Spain six, Italy, Holland, West Germany four times each and Portugal twice.

The club breakdown of victories is:

SIX: Real Madrid.

FOUR: Liverpool.

THREE: Ajax Amsterdam, Bayern Munich.

TWO: Benfica, AC Milan, Inter-Milan, Nottingham Forest.

ONE: Glasgow Celtic, Manchester United, Aston Villa, Feyenoord, SV Hamburg.

The first winner of the trophy was Real Madrid in 1956 when they downed France's Reims 4-3 in the final in Paris.

Indeed the great Real Madrid team — including the greats of all-time, Puskas, di Stefano, Gento and Santamaria — had a stranglehold on the trophy for the first five years.

Britain had to wait for its first win until 1967 when the pride of Scotland, Glasgow Celtic, downed Italy's Inter Milan 2-1 in the final in Lisbon.

Liverpool's collection started in 1977 when they beat West Germany's Borussia Moenchengladbach 3-1 in the final in Rome.

Favourite to take out this season's honours must surely be Italy's Juventus, Platini, Boniek, Rossi and all, although Liverpool must never be written off, despite their present problems.

CUP WINNERS' CUP

THIS competition came into being in 1960-61 and has been contested on 24 occasions.

British clubs have won the Cup Winners' Cup six times, Italy and Spain four times each, West Germany three, Russia and Belgium twice and East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Portugal once.

The club breakdown of wins is:

TWO: AC Milan, Barcelona, Anderlecht.

ONE: Fiorentina, Atletico Madrid, Tottenham

Hotspur, Sporting Lisbon, West Ham, Borussia Dortmund, Bayern Munich, Slovan Bratislava, Manchester City, Chelsea, Glasgow Rangers, FC Magdeburg, Dynamo Kiev, SV Hamburg, Valencia, Dynamo Tbilisi, Aberdeen, Juventus.

The first club to get its name on the Cup Winners' Cup was Italy's Fiorentina who beat Glasgow Rangers 4-1 on aggregate in a two-leg final played in Glasgow and Florence.

UEFA CUP

THE third European trophy, the UEFA Cup, did not come into being until 1971-72 when it replaced the old Fairs Cup competition.

Once again Britain has dominated this series with five wins followed by West Germany with three, Holland two and Italy, Sweden and Belgium one each.

The club breakdown is:

TWO: Liverpool, Tottenham Hotspur, Borussia Monchengladbach.

ONE: Feyenoord, Juventus, PSV Eindhoven, Eintracht Frankfurt, Ipswich Town, IFK Gothenberg, Anderlecht.

Tottenham Hotspur were the first winners when they beat another English club, Wolverhampton Wanderers, 3-2 on aggregate in a two-leg final in 1972.

Tottenham are also the present holders of the UEFA Cup.

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SURPRISE! A WEALTHY CLUB

BY TOM M'KAIN

WEST ADELAIDE may be stuck on the lower rungs of the National Soccer League, but it is now riding high in the financial stakes.

It is about to sign a deal which would net \$750,000 for the sale of its City club-rooms.

They cost West about \$200,000 back in 1978, and now the investment has paid off handsomely.

With cash from the sale, plus the \$148,000 raised in this year's Miss Hellas quest, the club is ready to rebuild its image on the playing field — but there will be no rush to buy a new team.

The bulk of the cash will be invested to ensure the club can meet running costs without having to beg supporters for help.

Home-grown

But coach Sam Salabasidis has asked for four new players for next year, and he is likely to get them, although he will again be encouraged to use as many home-grown players as possible.

West now leases all facilities at Hindmarsh Stadium from the SA Soccer Federation, including catering rights, and will use the ground as its headquarters and meeting place.

On the playing side, Sydney City striker John Kosmina is still one of West's targets as they are con-

vinced he would want to finish his playing career in his home town, but the Socceroo forward and captain is far from a spent force.

He would have to be made a very tempting offer to lure him away from Sydney, particularly with the World Cup qualifying games coming up.

Preston's Robbie Dunn was a hot tip recently to come back to West, who sold him at the start of the year to the Melbourne club, but West deny they have any plans for Dunn.

Salabasidis also tried to get Gary Cole last year, as Adelaide City did the previous season, but employment proved the major handicap.

The only other forward whose name has been linked with West is the giant youngster with Adelaide Croatia, Paul Blute, who almost signed this year but decided to see out his contract with the State League side.

Question

He is free to leave at the end of the season for \$3,500, but with John Kritikos now back in the NSL line-up and George Konstandopoulos to start

training again at the end of the month, West could have a surfeit of strikers, with Nick Malavazos and Steve Papadopoulos already in the squad.

Big question mark over the team is at the back where double stoppers Neil McGachey and Graham Honeyman are being tipped to retire — again!

McGachey came out of retirement to play sweeper this year while Honeyman, who had announced he would join a State League club, agreed to play again and took over from Dunn as centre-back.

He has also operated in midfield and up-front, which indicates that Salabasidis is looking for players for every line in his team.

With Konstandopoulos due back for the Ampol Cup summer series, along with midfielder Steve Atsalas who is recovering from a knee operation, West will be back to this year's full strength — if McGachey and Honeyman stay.

However, Salabasidis has said all along that despite talented youngsters, he must have experience if the club is to make any serious challenge, and re-

peat the title win it had in 1978.

For the first time in years

West has operated without any visa players.

But with some cash to spare, 1985 is certain to see at least one import hit the scene in blue and white.



□ GEORGE KONSTANDOPOULOS (left)

OLD RIVALS SQUARE UP

WHENEVER those old rivals Sydney City and St George play each other, their supporters are guaranteed plenty of action — and usually a classic match.

Next Saturday, however, there might be too much tension, too much hanging on the result of the Slickers v Saints battle at Sydney Athletic Field.

These are desperate days for St George as they attempt to haul themselves away from the spectre of relegation to State League.

It will also be a pretty desperate 90 minutes for Sydney City, for a different reason.

Slickers are having a marvellous year in the National League and they are determined to stay on top and go into the play-offs as clear champions.

Yet it must be said that the need for points is more important for St George.

Coach Frank Arok stated: "Every match is a grand final for our team. We have never been so sorely in need of wins."

The mystery is . . . how did Saints get into this relegation mess?

Saints are a team more familiar with the top of the table than the bottom but they have been handicapped this year by a thinly-spread squad of talent: this has meant selecting inexperienced youngsters when senior players have been absent.

Key men like Robbie and John O'Shea and Dez Marton missed important games and Saints suffered.

Slickers bristle with big names — names like Joe Watson, John Kosmina, Tony Pezzano, Murray Barnes, Paul Kay and many more.

Because the pressures on Slickers are not so severe, it looks like a home victory — unless St George can miraculously produce some of the magic which brought them the 1983 premiership.

PHOTOS

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□ BARNES



□ KOSMINA



□ STONE



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READERS FORUM

In this spot every week, we shall publish extracts from readers' letters — good or bad! If you want your opinions aired, please keep letters and postcards short and to the point. Write to the Editor, AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY, PO Box 106, Broadway, 2007.

SBISA'S NSL PLAN

AFTER reading Frank Sbis's comments relating to limiting the number of NSL clubs to 14 (two per State), I feel the idea has merit because there are too many NSL clubs for Australian Soccer fans to follow.

Crowds are spread too thinly to watch a number of poorly-skilled players generally using foul tactics to win matches.

But in reality, limiting the number of clubs will never happen, because which clubs would voluntarily leave the NSL? I believe the NSL should be scrapped and clubs revert to their State and local leagues where local Soccer fans can identify with their local players, clubs and, yes, opposition.

To boost standards, spectators and national media coverage, an interstate competition — like Sheffield Shield Cricket —

could be run by the Australian and State federations, with national teams selected from this competition.

Everybody knows what fierce rivalry and competition exists between the States in all sport, so why can't Soccer jump on the bandwagon? What better cost-efficient way to improve the sport?

As a country fan, 600km from Brisbane, I would travel to the city to watch interstate or international matches but not an NSL match, where the quality of the game cannot be guaranteed.

N.P. BENNETT, Gladstone, Qld.

JUST A DREAM

FRANK SBISA's article "Soccer Dream" (ASW 4/9/84) is just that.

The proposed "dream" sends me to sleep as it's a lot of rubbish. There is no way the clubs would go along with such an idea.

What would happen to all the players, coaches and masseurs now in the National League? I certainly would not like to go back and play in the State

League. In NSW, we have 12 team of about 15 players each (180 players). If you choose 30 players where will the other 150 go?

Sorry Frank, go back to sleep and "dream" some more.

NSL PLAYER, Sydney, NSW.

CHAMPAGNE SOCCER

YOUR article "Soccer Dream" has a lot of merit in its basic concept.

It would certainly solve Soccer problems and provide a uniform National League. It would also save clubs from bankruptcy and provide "champagne" Soccer played on a professional level.

I like the idea of one match, one venue, with modern comforts and concentrated promotion and advertising.

Can you imagine Sydney v WA, Victoria v Brisbane, Tasmania v SA with all the best players on display?

Existing NSL clubs would retain their identity in each State and serve as nurseries to the "Super" League.

I would also like to see a women's competition as curtain-raisers, preceded

by a boys' competition such as the Commonwealth Cup.

With professional promotion, the average attendance of 10,000 would be reached quite easily.

According to Frank Sbis's figures, you only need 5,000 paying spectators per match to break even.

All profits from the League should be sunk back into the game and used for promotions in schools, junior clubs and country areas — and don't forget the girls.

Yes, the basic concept is certainly very inviting. What a pity it must remain a "dream".

MARIA STEPHENS, Adamstown, NSW.

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THE WAY IT WAS

YOUR editorial of August 14 greatly interested me, especially the last two paragraphs.

You say that crowd figures are at their lowest for 25 years and clearly indicate that spectators prefer Soccer as it used to be. Then you say the sport is good enough to survive without borrowing any gimmicks from toher football codes.

I agree and disagree. It all depends on the words. "Soccer as it used to be." I think you are referring only to the last 20 years. I say that anyone under 40 has never seen Soccer played as it used to be.

In early October I shall be 78. Up until 1952, when I came to Australia, I had seen all the great players of the past — Stanley Matthews, Frank Swift, Hughie Gallacher, Alex James and a host of others. I remember going to Hampden Park on two successive Saturdays to watch the Scottish Cup Final and the international Scotland v England. Those were the pre-ticket days and prior to the kick-off the gates were shut with 150,000 inside. Now, you can be sure of one thing — those two vast crowds did not go there to watch eight-man defensive football.

So when you talk of "Soccer as it used to be", to my mind you talk of every team lining up with two full-backs, three half-backs and FIVE forwards. Two teams playing that formation were equally balanced between defence

and attack, the game was open and the stars had room to show their skills. There are no real stars today and as Pele says, "Where are the players?" — meaning stars.

The decline of Soccer can be traced to one source — coaches. I know that up to 1952 all that any club in Britain had were a manager and a trainer and, with the senior clubs, a board of directors. Can you imagine a coach telling Stanley Matthews what to do on the field? I know where he would have been told to go and in no uncertain terms.

Coaches have taken all that was good out of the game and replaced it with all that is bad. It is now more important not to lose a goal than score one. With possession football there are not as many back-passes as forward ones. We always went forward and we considered that the best way to protect a goal lead was to score another one. Fair shoulder charges and combined wing play are things of the past, along with advanced skills now no longer seen anywhere in the world. All you need now are the basics.

I cannot see the powers controlling the game ever waking up.

W. BILL McARTHUR, Brunswick, Vic.

WHAT MUST NEWCASTLE DO?

I'M writing this letter to ask what have Rosebud United got to do to get a better deal from the NSL — except pull out of the competition, and that will never happen.

It was great to see Newcastle win the Cup final — but the league made sure we had to do it the hard way.

First we were told that the semi-final against Leichhardt would be played in Newcastle. It went to Sydney.

Then we find that Harker Oval wasn't good enough and so our boys went to Melbourne and really showed what great determination they have by winning the final 1-0 against Melbourne Croatia last Wednesday night.

If the NSL thinks that

2,000 people in Melbourne is a better financial proposition than 4,000 people or more in Newcastle, any wonder the NSL is supposedly going broke.

It appears to me that the NSL is scared of a country team operating on a shoe string budget that is going places in the NSL against name teams. Everytime we start to get our act together, someone pulls the plug.

Those leading NSL officials must have had red faces when we won the Cup.

JEFFREY GRAHAM, Newcastle, NSW.

GOING FISHING!

WELL the NSL officials blew it again. The National Soccer Cup Final was played in Melbourne.

And while the dying embers of Cup fever — generated by enormous amounts of publicity by the media such as NBN Channel 3, Radio Sporting Station 2HD and the Newcastle Morning Herald, plus assistance from the Newcastle City Council — slowly fade away, Newcastle Rosebud United and the sporting public must be pondering sadly about the amateurish credentials of our so-called Soccer leaders.

Northern NSW Soccer has been stabbed in the back and may not recover.

Not only was Newcastle's Rosebud United in the final but so also was the Youth team in their final. Newcastle has waited seven years for a Cup Final and a crowd of 10,000 or upwards could have been achieved.

Mr Brian Emery and Mr Kamasz inspected the venue for this Cup clash and decided the Harker Oval surface was unfit for play. In opposition to this decision, Newcastle City Council responded by saying that the surface of the ground would be much improved by kick-off time and would be worked on. All this to no avail.

The shoddy treatment handed out to Newcastle Rosebud United by NSL officials in this competition can only be described as disgraceful and now we, the paying customers and supporters, are being treated in the same fashion.

I for one will be going fishing — if I can find an empty spot among all the other ex-supporters.

BRIAN CAMPBELL, Wallsend, NSW.

NSL YOUTH LEAGUE DEMONS HIT FOR SIX

THE Australian Institute of Sport clinched its first National Youth League premiership with a crushing 6-0 victory over Blacktown Demons at Gabbie Stadium.

Second-placed Melita Eagles went down 0-2 at home against Canberra, and fourth-placed Newcastle slumped at home 2-3 at the hands of the Penrith Panthers.

At the Gabbie Stadium, the Demons had no answer to Jimmy Shoulder's boys from the Australian Institute who dominated from start to finish.

BY PETER RUSSELL

Warren Spink opened the scoring direct from a free-kick in the ninth minute to bring his personal tally to 19 for the season.

Andrew Barnal made it 2-0 in the 39th minute and that's how the scores remained until the break.

After the break AIS added to their score at regular intervals, through Graham McMillan in the 60th, Tom Burke 68th, George Kulesar 74th and Peter Andrews 86th.

At St George Stadium, the Saints ended up comfortable winners 3-1 against a physically superior Wollongong Wolves, but despite that superiority did not have the guile of the Saints.

The Saints led by two goals at the half-time break through midfielder Chris High.

The Saints continued to dominate but poor finishing and David Curley in the Wolves goal allowed the Wolves back into the game in the 70th minute when Earl Canvin scored from the penalty spot.

However, Scott Watson restored the Saints superiority just two minutes later.

After an even and scoreless first half, Newcastle took an early second half lead against the Penrith Panthers through Terry Mason. They then started to take command of the game and it looked as if the floodgates would open.

However, the Panthers got back into the game in the 72nd minute through Ginn.

But two minutes later Mason struck again to put the Rosebuds back into the lead. The Panthers were not finished and they hit back with goals from Craig



DAVID CURLEY, Wollongong youth team goalie.

Lowe in the 78th and Richard Tinsley got the winner in the 89th minute.

At Bossley Park, Marconi and Sydney City battled out a traditionally tough encounter with the sides sharing the spoils at the final whistle.

The first half offered little in clear-cut chances, with both sides restricted to long range shots.

The second half started much in the same vein as the first and it was not until the 70th minute that the deadlock was breached when Zlatko Markovski headed Marconi into the lead.

But that lead was short-lived as four minutes later John Foxman's shot was handled on the Marconi goal-line and skipper Graeme Patterson made no mistake from the spot.

It was another second half affair at the Melita Stadium where the Eagles took a jolt to their title aspirations at the hands of fellow contenders Canberra.

After a scoreless first half the irrepressible Manis Lamond put the Arrows into the lead in the 51st minute with a brilliant goal from an impossible angle. Andrew Brockbank got the second from the penalty spot after Frank D'Addario was brought down by keeper Chris Hummel.

In the remaining game at Henson Park the Leichhardt club continued its neglect of its youth team, by once again failing to supply any information.

However, the result was a 1-1 draw, with Ferdinand De Filippis scoring for Leichhardt and Andy Servas for Olympic.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AIS	22	15	3	4	52	22	33
St George	22	12	4	6	49	40	28
Canberra	22	12	2	8	43	35	26
Melita Eagles	22	11	4	7	39	32	26
Newcastle	22	10	6	6	32	27	26
Leichhardt	22	10	5	7	35	27	25
Sydney City	22	9	3	11	47	33	21
Marconi	22	7	6	9	33	39	20
Olympic	22	8	3	11	45	46	19
Blacktown	22	7	3	12	21	42	17
Penrith	22	7	2	13	34	50	16
Croatia	22	6	3	13	25	40	15
Wollongong	22	6	2	14	36	58	14

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Applications close Friday Nov 3



□ SEMI-FINAL ACTION: Jimmy Ristevski clears the ball under pressure from Gabriel Domazetovich.



□ SEMI-FINAL ACTION: Rockdale goalscorer Ross Brown moves away from Inter Monaro's Mark Francis.

CONTROVERSY SURROUNDS MONARO'S WIN

A controversial penalty decision midway through the second half allowed Inter Monaro to secure victory over Rockdale Ilinden and move into the grand final of the NSW State championship.

In the 64th minute Monaro midfielder Billy Willox made a run into the Rockdale penalty area and was fouled. The ensuing penalty from Walter Valeri was brilliantly saved by Rockdale goalie Nick Kotzohambos.

Rockdale supporters were stunned when referee Roger Doenau blew to have the kick retaken, arguing that Kotzohambos had moved before the ball was taken.

With the scores locked at 1-1, Valeri made no mistake with his second attempt.

I thought this was a harsh decision against the Ilinden side and they never really recovered from the setback.

Rockdale coach Ilya Takac, although disappointed at losing, was proud of his team's performance.

"I thought the boys showed a lot of character to come back after the penalty decision," he said.

"Really, we shouldn't have let Monaro score such a soft goal in the first half."

"When you think about it, this probably cost us the game," Takac added.

Monaro broke the deadlock in the 27th minute. A pass from the left was skil-

fully "dummied" by Tony Brennan and with three defenders watching proceedings, Valeri comfortably tucked the ball inside the far post.

Seven minutes later Rockdale almost equalised when a goal-bound shot from striker Ross Brown was cleared by Monaro sweeper Angelo Ambrosino.

Brown, one of the State League's leading marksmen, gained revenge levelling the score in the 63rd minute with a superbly taken shot from the edge of the area.

With Valeri scoring a penalty a minute later, Rockdale were eager to push forward and look for the equaliser. On a number of occasions Rockdale looked threatening but erratic finishing let them down.

A deceiving shot from Brown in the 70th minute was pushed around the post by Monaro goalie Michael Hocking.

Monaro striker Andrew Monterosso had two easy chances to add to the scoreline during the latter stages but was denied by Rockdale's talented young goalie Nick Kotzohambos.

Monaro now have a week's break while their opponents in the grand final will be determined between Manly and Rockdale.

Rockdale were best served by strikers Brown and Terry Jones while Paul Degney and Kotzohambos shone in defence.

Sweeper Angelo Ambrosino, midfielder Walter Valeri and young defender Gabriel Domazetovich stood out for Monaro.

ROCKDALE: Nick Kotzohambos, Paul Degney, Jeff Wilson, Darren Wilson, Tony Atanasovski (Tra-

janovski 65), Vasco Nikolovski, Vince Nastevski, Kenny Slavski, Ross Brown, Jim Ristevski, Terry Jones.

MONARO: Michael Hocking, Gabriel Domazetovich, Harry Williams, Angelo Ambrosino, Mark Francis, Billy Willox, Andrew Monterosso, Isaac Farrell (Gabriel Wilk 73), Tony Brennan (Roy Colbertaldo 82), Walter Valeri, Baz Giampaolo.

REFEREE: R. Doenau.

CROWD: 680.

LACEY STARS

SECOND grade premiers Ku-ring-gai had to wait for a penalty-shootout to clinch a spot in this year's grand final.

With the scores locked at 2-2 after the mandatory extra-time period, the penalty shoot-out concluded with the Chasers clear victors 3-1 in the NSW State second grade semi-final.

Young Ku-ring-gai goalie Andrew Lacey starred in the penalty shoot-out denying the Seaside's with two brilliant saves.

Manly really have themselves to blame for not sealing victory. Despite being behind 1-0 after Ku-ring-gai's Neil Hunter scored in the 39th minute, they bounced back and looked well in control.

Striker Dudley Fox, one of Manly's best performers, was rewarded for his efforts scoring both of his team's goals in the 44th and 51st minutes.

Ku-ring-gai responded equalising through Graeme Williamson in the 74th minute.

This weekend Manly are pitted against Sutherland and the winner will do battle with Ku-ring-gai in the grand final in two weeks time.

KU-RING-GAI: Andrew Lacey, Richard Ings, John Foulas, David Martin, David Franklin, Neale Williamson, Peter Seach, Andrew Harper (Robert Lowe 65), Neil Hunter, Graeme Williamson, Andrew McCranor.

MANLY: Gareth Jones, Roy Scobie (Robbie Poulson 84), Mike Sestanovich, Paul Sargeant, Mike Lynch, Jeff Barker, Ross Ethrington, Paul Juergens, Ronnie Davison (Steve Piau 67), Colin Woodward, Dudley Fox.



□ ANDREW LACEY: shone for Ku-ring-gai.

SHARKS TOO STRONG

A revitalised second half performance from Sutherland enabled them to defeat Manly 3-1 and advance into this year's NSW third grade grand final.

Sutherland opened the scoring in the 36th minute when an attempted clearance from Manly defender Leon Theodor flew into his own goal.

This didn't deter the young Seaside's and they responded by levelling through striker Wayne Larmann in the 60th minute.

Sutherland asserted their superiority clinching victory with goals from Andy Duncan and Neil Lovelock in the 68th and 70th minutes.

SUTHERLAND: Frank Mrcvic, Jamie Rankin, Harry Christadoulou, Craig Tever, Sid Massoritti (Andy Mellier 49), Adrian Weimers, Lee Nelson, Grant Robson, Andy Duncan, Neil Lovelock, Tony Logue.

MANLY: Tim Bedding, Leon Theodore, Andrew Melville, Peter Dennis, Steve Vargas, Peter Nicholson (Oscar Gonzales 70), Bernie McSharek (David Annan 32), Mark Cimarossti, Steve Green, Wayne Larmann, Graig Laughran.

DIV 2 - GDE 1

Fairy M	24	19	2	3	55	20	40
W'gong M	24	16	6	2	46	16	38
Bathurst	24	13	8	3	44	21	34
Dee Why	24	14	5	5	60	24	33
Glad-Hby	24	13	3	8	43	27	29
Norths	24	10	7	7	40	32	27
Blktwn U	24	10	6	8	42	25	26
Rev Wkrs	24	8	7	9	33	29	23
Belmore	24	4	9	11	25	46	17
Pen Utd	24	5	4	15	30	60	14
Artarmon	24	5	4	15	36	69	14
NSW Uni	24	3	3	18	20	71	9
Parra City	24	3	2	19	38	71	8

DIV 2 - GDE 2

Blktwn U	24	19	3	2	78	16	41
Rev Wkrs	24	13	7	4	49	25	33
Glades	24	14	5	5	49	25	33
Norths	24	13	7	4	49	27	33
Fairy M	24	12	5	7	40	25	29
Dee Why	24	12	4	8	46	28	28
Artarmon	24	11	2	11	49	62	24
W'gong M	24	9	4	11	41	43	22
Pen Utd	24	7	4	13	37	61	18
Bathurst	24	6	3	16	18	48	15
Belmore	24	6	2	16	36	59	14
Parra C	24	3	5	16	27	56	11
NSW Uni	24	5	1	18	12	56	11

DIV 2 - GDE 3

Belmore	24	20	2	2	84	11	42
Pen Utd	24	16	3	5	60	31	35
Blktwn U	24	14	6	4	53	17	34
Bathurst	24	14	2	8	45	28	30
Glades	24	10	9	5	45	19	29
Norths	24	12	5	7	50	27	29
Dee Why	24	9	7	8	32	46	25
NSW Uni	24	9	4	11	43	33	22
Artarmon	24	8	5	11	49	51	21
Parra C	24	8	4	13	31	40	20
Fairy M	24	1	9	14	19	45	11
Rev Wkrs	24	4	3	17	15	74	11
W'gong	24	1	1	22	16	120	3

STATE LEAGUE 1st DIVISION — 1 v 2 SEMI-FINALS

Inter Monaro v Rockdale Ilinden	2-1	1st
Ku-King-Gai v Manly Warringah	5-3p2nd	
Sutherland Shire v Manly Warringah	3-1	3rd

2nd DIVISION

Artarmon v Uni. of NSW	6-4	1-0	2-3
Nth Bankstown v Blacktown United	1-0	3-2	1-2
Artarmon v Glville Hornsby	0-4	2-5	1-3
Dee Why Swans v Penrith United	4-1	3-1	0-2
Fairy Meadow v W'gong Mace	3-2	1-0	1-1
Revesby Workers v Belmore	2-2	3-1	0-4
P'matta City v Bathurst '75	1-2	0-3	1-1
Uni. of NSW v Blacktown Utd	0-1	0-2	0-1

3rd DIVISION — FINALS

C'town City v Queens Park E/S	1-0	1st
C'town City v Queen Park E/S	4-5p2nd	
Baulkham Hills v Bondi Marine	4-0	3rd

INTER URBAN 2nd DIVISION — FINAL REPLAY

Chelsea v Macarthur Utd	2-4	1st
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4th DIVISION — FINAL

Welcome Sports v Concord Juniors	n/p	1st
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FAIRY MEADOW PROMOTED

IN a thrilling match to climax the promotion struggle in Illawarra Soccer, Fairy Meadow scored in the last minute to beat Wollongong Macedonia 3-2 in front of nearly 4,000 spectators.

It was the perfect ending to the Soccer coaching career of Mike Johnson, who was brought back to the game this season with the express aim of getting Fairy Meadow promoted to NSW State League.

Tony Charnock scored the winning goal much to the delight of the Meadow fans.

Coach Johnson, who believes Sunday Soccer offends his religious principles — he is a member of the Mormon Church — has been a top coach in Australia for the past 14 years and has held full-time positions with St George and West Adelaide, the National League, clubs.

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

PRESENTS

TOP ACTION SOCCER

DIVISION 1 — FINALS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

GABBIE STADIUM

1st grade 3pm Rockdale v Manly

2nd grade 1pm Manly v Sutherland

3rd grade 11am Manly v Polonia

DIVISION 2 — SEMI-FINALS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

STATE HEADQUARTERS, PARKLEA

1st grade 3pm W'gong Macedonia v Dee Why

2nd grade 1pm Blktwn Utd v Gladesville-Hby

3rd grade 11am Belmore v Blktown Utd

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

STATE HEADQUARTERS, PARKLEA

1st grade 3pm Fairy Meadow v Bathurst '75

2nd grade 1pm Revesby Wkrs v Nth Bankstown

3rd grade 11am Penrith Utd v Bathurst '75

NEXT WEEK

DIVISION 1

GRAND FINALS

MARCONI STADIUM

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

SOCCER AROUND AUSTRALIA

ILLAWARRA'S FAMILY FEUD

BY PHIL MURPHY

THE Giraldi brothers gave their parents a hectic time at the weekend.

Paul (Wollongong Macedonia) and Robert (Fairy Meadow) turned out in the all important State League promotion battle at Police Boys' Oval.

Both play up-front and have been key players in their teams' success this season.

A third brother, Frank, was to have played in Saturday's Illawarra final for Bellambi but missed it through suspension.

Frank said it is difficult for his parents when they watch Wollongong play Fairy Meadow.

"They just have to be neutral and hope it is a draw," Frank said.

...

BIG drawing clubs Port Kembla and Aris are rated odds-on to make Premier League for the start of next season.

Nominations for the League close in October and the ISA will then decide if the two First Division teams will be invited into the major league.

Port Kembla won the First Division championship with Aris in second place, Kembla are working overtime to have Wetherall Park ready for 1985.

This ground is at Primbee so this will decentralise the League a bit more.

Aris have been having

FAIRYTALE RUN FOR ORANGE

BY PAT ALLEN

ORANGE EX-SERVICES fairytale continued when the side defeated favourites Waratahs 2-1 to progress to the Grand Final in Parkes against Lithgow Thistles.

The match began evenly with Ex-Services making the better of the chances when Aiden Sugden calmly beat his defender, then the goalkeeper.

After this point, Waratahs began to apply the pressure and nearly equalised when Steven Hooper hit the post with a dipping shot.

Such was Waratahs' control that goalkeeper Greg Davidson incredibly only touched the ball on four occasions in the second half.

However, it was Waratahs' inability to find the net that led to more players being pushed forward, leaving a gap that was once more exploited by Sugden.

He found Billy Mill on the flank who was able to keep the ball in play, leading to a Waratah player putting the ball in his own net.

Replacement winger Gary Campbell struck back moments later to ensure a nail-biting finish, but Ex-Services clung on for victory and a place in the Grand Final.

In the second grade final contest in Bathurst, CYMS won through to the Grand Final with Waratahs by edging out Thistles 2-1.

A protest has been lodged by the Thistles club following the match.

As expected, CYMS ability to score goals decided the match.

negotiations with a number of clubs to share a ground for next season while they get their new complex ready.

They are also working on land in the Primbee area and say it will be ready for the start of 1986.

Meantime, they will stay on as tenants at Kelly Park, home ground of Coniston.

...

ROBERT ZANIER plays reserve grade with Aris and featured in Sunday's Grand Final with his team.

This meant he couldn't fill his usual role of the "the Wolf".

Zanier is the Wollongong City mascot and has even travelled interstate with the team to lead them on to the field.

The suit was made originally by Mrs Rhonda Kelly, wife of Wollongong City chairman Laurie Kelly.

He must rate the most well-known club mascot in the National League, but Zanier reports it can be uncomfortable on a warm day.

...

WITH Fairy Meadow coach Mike Johnson having decided to quit Soccer after this season, the job could be appealing to a few other people.

Hugh Tinney had a lot of success with Fairy Meadow and his three-year contract with Dapto has just finished.

Tony McDonald has done a good job with the minor grade teams at Fairy Meadow this year and must also come into contention.

...

UNANDERRA secretary John Adams was irate when

his club's reserve grade side lost their Grand Final to Wollongong Sports on penalty kicks.

Adams said it is a joke when a team can go down in a Grand Final this way.

WESTON WIN FINAL

NEVER discount Weston in a Grand Final.

That Northern NSW Federation maxim held true on Sunday when the Bears defeated West Wallsend after a penalty shootout at Macquarie Field.

It was Weston, the Grand Final specialists, who made the better of a tense spot-kick duel when 120 minutes of football had failed to produce a goal.

While the result was a personal triumph for Weston captain-coach Jack Turnbull, appearing in his farewell match, it was a tragedy for West Wallsend midfielder Scott Wilson.

The 16-year-old had been called into first grade for the decider and after playing solidly it was he who had the misfortune to see his vital penalty attempt saved by Weston's Clinton Jenkins.

ADELAIDE CLUBS SEARCH FOR STATE TALENT

BY TOM MCKAHN

ADELAIDE'S NSL coaching pair, City's Edmund Kreft and Sam Salabasidis of West, will be scouting the end-of-season State League competitions for 1985 talent.

Croatia won the Rothmans League First Division title, but along with the other top three clubs have still to play in the Colo-Cola Top Four Cup, then the new West End Premier Cup for the top six teams plus the top two from Second Division.

Already West has an appointment to talk to Croatia's giant striker Paul Blute, who will be released for \$3,500 at the end of the year.

He almost signed for the NSL club this year, but decided to wait until he could get away at a lower fee.

Another Croatia player who must be interesting the NSL pair again is forward Gary Price, an English import who was joint top scorer last year but then was struck by a shocking hamstring injury.

However, he has now climbed back to the top of the

talent heap and is the gifted type of player who could make it in the NSL.

City must also be wondering how Luis Casimiro got away.

He was with City in the days of Rale Rasic, but the latter considered him too slightly built to make it in the national competition.

However, the little Portuguese from Timor has proved he can take the knocks with the "big boys" and has a nose for goals.

Another will o' the wisp player is Campbelltown winger Steve Lindsay, who was particularly impressive in helping Campbelltown beat Croatia in a PGH Federation Cup semi-final.

Despite his frail appearance, Lindsay takes on anyone, loving to run at defenders and has a deadly cross-plus just as deadly a shot when he is in

front of goal.

Adrian Santrac, the Beograd midfield genius had a season on loan to West two years ago under Alan Vest, who rejected him.

But it would be no surprise if Salabasidis asks for his signature.

And despite his "veteran" tag Dusan Rusic, another Beograd midfielder with a string of goals to his credit, has also impressed, as has Polonia's Polish import Jan Kierno.

He was wanted by City and West this year but had problems with Polonia over a clearance.

The pair may try again as Kierno is still "the little general" when it comes to midfield play, and his balding head does not mean he is an old man.



DAVID MILLER

John Francis, another veteran, has again been outstanding for Azzurri in midfield, and will front up against Campbelltown in the PGH Federation Cup final this weekend.

Alan Scott, a member of the Azzurri younger brigade, has had a good season up-front along with Paul Wilde, and it would be no surprise if a move was made for Azzurri's brilliant young goalkeeper David Miller.

COALSTARS MAKE KEY SIGNING

BY GREG RUSSELL

QUEENSLAND Premier League club Coalstars has made an early start to the 1985 season by securing English winger Dave Wheeler.

Wheeler, 24, will return to Britain in October when his current working visa expires but will come back to 'Stars' in January on a two-year sportsman's visa.

"Dave has signed a con-

tract. He will sign a blue form on his return," club spokesman Mike Rule said.

Wheeler, an amateur, was an unexpected mid-season capture for the Ips-

wich club. He virtually walked into the club "off the street" and netted three league and four cup goals.

After an impressive start to the season, Coalstars

finished in a disappointing mid-table spot.

Coalstars intend strengthening their squad next season and are confident of retaining most players from this season, including this year's signings Peter Tyson and Archie Fraser.

The club also is on the lookout for a new coach.

Coalstars are not alone among Brisbane clubs in searching for a new coach.

Acacia Ridge have placed an advertisement for 1985 coaches, while Wynnum and Olympic also are likely to call for applications, although present coaches Brian Lampitt and Walter Tamandl will be urged to re-apply.

Mount Gravatt and Ipswich United are likely to re-appoint Eric Thompson and Matt Carson for yet another season, while Thistle, Taringa and North Star are expected to begin negotiating with Jim Bayliss, Iain Kesson and Iain Fagan for 1985.

MT GRAVATT WIN TITLE

BY GREG RUSSELL

MOUNT GRAVATT retained their Queensland Premier League championship title despite a last round falter.

The Hawks could only managed to draw 1-1 with North Star, but held off a determined second round challenge from rivals Ipswich United to take the championship by one point.

Mount Gravatt and Ipswich, who beat Easts 1-0 in the final round, were clearly the dominant teams in this year's restructuring competition.

The two teams finished on 27 and 26 points respectively, well ahead of third-placed Grange Thistle and nearly 10 points above fourth team Acacia Ridge.

Acacia Ridge scored one of the upsets of the season in the final round to steal the fourth semi-final position.

The Ridge beat last season's Grand Final winners Olympic 3-0, and could have scored another two goals, to leapfrog the Goodwin Park side into the four.

Bayside club Wynnum, who had hovered above the relegation zone all season, dropped to bottom at the last minute and will be relegated to the Intermediate League.

Relegation favourites Taringa Rovers performed the escape act of the year to finish the season third-bottom.

With three matches remaining Taringa were two points adrift at the bottom of the table but scored a win and two draws to assure Premier League survival.

Brisbane Lions' second side won promotion from the Intermediate League, but after they had seemingly lost the top position two weeks earlier.

Lions, who after playing in last year's Premier League Grange Final, were relegated in a shock move by the restructuring committee.

Two games from home they lost 1-2 to Brisbane City to allow rivals Valley Trident to move a point clear at the top of the table.

In the final round Valleys had the easy match against Newmarket, while Lions had to play third-placed side Redlands.

But in an absolute boilover, Newmarket downed Valley 1-0, and Lions drew with Redlands to win promotion on goal difference.

Goodna and Redcliffe were the teams relegated from the Intermediate League while Annerley and Kingsridge won promotion from Amateur Division One.

Former Brisbane Lions NSL striker Ron Millman won the QSF's leading goalscorer prize with an unrivalled tally of 17 goals in 18 matches.

Millman finished eight goals clear of his nearest rival, Grange Thistle's Tony Bailey, with Billy Williamson, the former Lions and Brisbane City NSL player now with Olympic, and Mark Brusasco, another

former NSL striker now with Easts, one goal further behind.

The QSF conducted a club championship for Premier League clubs for the first time this season and, after leading all year, Mount Gravatt were

pipped at the death by Ipswich, who also won the Golden Circle trophy for the best performed team in the second round.

Ipswich's Premier League, Premier reserves and Premier

colts teams finished with a combined aggregate of 74 points, scoring 113 goals and conceding 57. Mount Gravatt finished with 72, while Acacia Ridge were further away in third on 63.

The Premier League finals are now in full swing with the major semi-final between Mount Gravatt and Ipswich scheduled for Perry Park this Sunday.

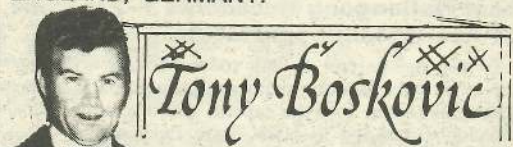
The Premier League Grand Final will be played at Soccer Headquarters on October.



MARK BRUSASCO: Easts top scorer.

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WORLD CUP



SERDERON PRIZE RESULTS

THE recipients of magnificent prizes made available by Serderon Pty Ltd will be announced after the 1984 competition closes at the September 25 issue.

The winner will accept a \$500 cheque with the compliments of major polythene distributor Serderon Pty Ltd and its manager Steven Serda.

Other prizes are: 2nd \$250, 3rd \$150, 4th \$100 and 5th \$50.

The conclusion of the 1984 competition does not signal any change in AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY'S unmatched cover of junior Soccer competitions and events as they occur.

We look forward to providing you with up-to-the-minute news on all the huge ramifications of school and junior Soccer as long as our unrivalled 1984 cover of the world's major football code continues.

And that will include continuing results in the highly popular 1984 Champion of Champions series conducted by the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation.

REFEREES TO FIJI

A PARTY of five referees and officials from Gladesville — Hornsby Soccer Referees' Federation leave tomorrow (Wednesday) for Fiji.

The valued trip is a back-up for the 1983 tour, which was undertaken at the request of the Fiji Soccer Referees' Association and the Fiji Primary Schools Soccer Association.

Following the success of the first visit in helping to establish the cadet referees' system in Fiji, a further request was received.

Three cadet referees will officiate at the Fiji Primary Schools National Tournament.

Cadet referees in the big Gladesville area have been competing all year for selection for the trip.

Ultimately Jamie Wynn, Darren Tredale and Nail Gleeson were chosen.

Accompanying them will be local officials Ron Beaumont and Wesley Oke, whose task will again be to continue the programme of introducing cadet referees and extending the group of junior Soccer.

Beaumont said: "Such programmes require a fair amount of funding if the job is to be properly handled."

In addition Attack Sportswear of Albury and Dunlop Footwear have been of tremendous assistance for the second time.



CADET OF THE YEAR

KEN ARTUSO, of Manly-Warringah branch of the Amateur Referee's Federation, has been awarded the honour of Cadet Referee of the Year.

Runner-up is Greg Leverton, a member of the Granville branch.

The awards were made by referee inspectors, who closely watched the performance of all referees whilst players were locked in battle to win the State Championships at Parklea in U14 and U15 grades.

Cadets, who are referees under 18 years of age, work hard during the year for the honour of representing their branches in the State title games.

During the games, the inspectors closely watch the performance of referees and linesmen and allocate marks.

As part of the tournament arrangements, all referees must attend a seminar conducted by the referees State director of coaching, Keith Lockrey.

This year no less than 14 referees' branches were represented by cadets.



□ **LEADING** cadet referees Trevor Southward (Bankstown), Jim Lee (Sutherland) and David Kite (Manly-Warringah).

LICENSING BENEFITS AMATEURS

LICENSING of the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation logo to leading suppliers of sporting goods has already proved a winner.

The NSW Amateurs can expect to receive some \$7,000 from this source in 1984, and the scheme is only just getting underway.

In its preliminary stage the main suppliers, which are Treloar (Aust.) Sportswear Pty Ltd and Overseas Indents Pty Ltd, are supplying footballs to the junior clubs of the code in southern NSW.

The next phase will arrive next season, when Sporting Supplies (Aust.) Pty Ltd and Attack Sports Pty Ltd join in with their ranges of sporting gear.

Also coming under the NSW ASF banner will be R & R Trophies.

Entry into this field was the brainchild of NSW ASF president Ian Holmes, who was ably assisted by business-wise officials such as John Hedison, John Davies and Jerry Coates.

Mr Holmes told us: "The original cost of a patent attorney to help us set up the scheme was \$1,600."

"As the NSW Amateur Federation is not an incorporated body under the NSW Companies Code, it was necessary for the NSW president and the presidents of Sydney, Southern NSW, Western NSW and Riverina to act trustees."

"Licensing is certainly a

two-way relationship. Benefits to the NSWASF will follow if we service the licenses and give them as much exposure as possible in the junior ranks."

"We have established our logo to cover all possible types of goods that are or can be supplied to clubs and associations."

"To deal with such an increasing volume of promotion, calls for full time staff of high quality will merit further consideration."

Those who have not fully grasped the potential of licensing should certainly start doing their homework.

There is no room for officials who are behind the times in these matters.

The Amateur Soccer Federation is fortunate that there is a group of capable businessmen who have seen fit to work in with them.

Steve Treloar (Treloar Aust.) and Greg Smyth (Overseas Indents) have been first in the queue.

Already Sporting Supplies, who carry the Admiral and Patrick ranges, and Attack Sports, with Attack gear, are preparing their sportswear for 1985.

Sporting Supplies is under the control of Peter Gray, who is well-known as president of Sutherland Shire Soccer Club.

Attack is the company of Tony Ratcliffe, the first president of the Riverina Branch.

And behind R & R Trophies is Ross Andrews. After losing a leg in a motor accident, Ross gave a lot of time to promotion of the code in Southern NSW and Highlands Association.

The big and relatively new Macarthur Soccer Football Association was fortunate to obtain his services as secretary.

The move to licensing has now interested more federations than NSW.

Northern NSW and the ACT have sensed the benefits to be gained and are now closely examining possible entry into similar arrangements.



SUNBURY CHAMP

JUSTIN SMITH (pictured), nine, is a proud member of Sunbury Soccer Club, north-west of Melbourne.

Last year he managed a hat-trick when playing against Melton U9.

He was also the best penalty kick taker in his club.

This year his team managed to net only two goals. "Just" collected both of them.

His mother said: "Certainly my son's aim is to be the best player he can be."

Unfortunately our juniors get very little support, and that is quite sad."

FRANK FINLAY



□ **Steve Treloar** signs on the dotted line for his company watched by Harrie Denning (left) and Ian Holmes.



□ **Another licensing agreement signed** — this time by Greg Smyth of Overseas Indents Pty Ltd.



□ **A good deal done** — Treloar, Holmes, Smyth.



□ **Bruce James**, the Marconi and former Australian squad goalkeeper, is sales manager for Treloar. Here he is with Blacktown City full-back Robert Wheatley's sister, Sandra, as she models a State coaching instructor's T-shirt.

KU-RING-GAI DISTRICT SOCCER ASSN

1985 YOUTH LEAGUE SELECTION TRIALS

Warrimoo Oval, Warrimoo Rd., St. Ives.

U13 & U14: Mondays, October 29, November 5 & 12
5.30 pm to 7.30 pm

U15 & U16: Wednesdays, October 31, November 7 & 14
5.30 pm to 7.30 pm



The trials are open to all players in the respective age-groups.
All enquiries to:—

Phil Jones,
Director of Coaching
487 3635

or **Phil Rees,**
Rep. Football Convenor
44 2190

HONOUR FOR AUSSIE LADS

THE extent of the honour accorded to Australian junior players to participate in the first World Championship for U16s has just been revealed.

The only countries admitted to the tournament at this stage are Bolivia, Hungary, USA, China and Australia.

So Australia is one of a select five to date. The tournament is for youth footballers born on or after January 1, 1969.

Matches will be played in the Chinese cities of Beijing (Peking), Shanghai, Tianjin and Dalian from July 31 to August 11, 1985.

Australian Youth coach Vic Dalgleish handled the Australian U15 team in Auckland last year and is advancing his selection of players for the China trip.



□ VIC DALGLEISH: U16 national coach.

CURTAIN RAISERS

STAGING of an Under 9 KO cup series as curtain-raiser at St George Stadium

proved a worthwhile venture.

The final went to APIA with a 1-0 win over local St George Association club Penshurst West Youth Club.

Frank Arok presented the medals to the winners. Trophy donor Ed Harris presented the winning shield to the club.

VALE FRED BURGESS

FRED BURGESS, one of the longest serving officials of the St George district, died suddenly on Saturday night.

He was a life member of both the St George Soccer Association and the strong St George Police Boys Soccer Club.

Over the years he served the Association in many capacities and for a long period was a well-known delegate involved in NSW junior circles.

In subsequent years he widened his activities, working untiringly at St George's home games in organising the ball boys and willingly carrying out many other official duties.

On another plane, Fred Burgess was a director involved in the many facets of the operation of the big St George Budapest Soccer Club at Mortdale.

The sympathy of many people in Soccer goes to his widow and members of the family.

LEE GETS CHOP

REPORTS KEITH GILMOUR

WELL-CREDENTIALLED youth coach David Lee has been given the chop by Blacktown City.

Lee is the man who brought the famed Blacktown Soccer Academy to its standard of excellence over recent seasons.

Concerned parents of players in the Academy junior squad replied quickly.

They undertook to provide funds for Lee's salary for next season from their own pockets.

This offer will be formally placed before the club after our press deadline.

The queer part of current arrangements, according to John Johnson of the Parents Action Group, is that Blacktown president Brian Adair originally accepted Lee's offer to coach next year at a greatly reduced salary.

Later this was withdrawn.

Mr Johnson said: "We recognise the financial commitment of the club to foster Soccer in the Blacktown area."

"The club should also recognise our greater com-

mitment to the upbringing of our youth."

Behind Blacktown's dilemma is decreased funding from the licensed club and lower than expected gate receipts from the Demons' NSL matches.

Club secretary Peter Thorne told us recently that his club's future model would be a move to operate more closely with the Blacktown District SFA.



"Once we do it I believe that others, including major ethnic clubs, will see the value and also follow suit," he said.

Amongst David Lee's outstanding qualifications are ASF Senior Certificate and Staff coach, English FA full coaching licence and FIFA Coaches Diploma.

For the past six years he has been a regular lecturer at the Australian College of

Physical Education, Sydney University, Ku-ring-gai College of Advanced Edu-

cation and the NSW Department of Sport, Recreation and Tourism.

'A CHANGE OF DIRECTION'

BY BRAD EARL

BLACKTOWN CITY Soccer Academy director of coaching David Lee and the Blacktown City club have parted ways.

Vic Renkovetsky, who was Blacktown District Association director of coaching and NSW State U19 coach this year, has been appointed to take over immediately.

Blacktown City secretary-manager Peter Thorne explained that the club and Lee held different opinions on the future of the Academy.

"We have changed the direction of the programme," Thorne said. "The Academy will now consist of four teams, not two groups."

The four teams will be the Youth League teams from Under 13 to 16.

The original idea of the Academy, planned by Lee and then Demons first team

coach Rale Rasic, was to take young players from 11 to 14 out of competition football, but Thorne said this was too revolutionary for Australian Soccer.

"I don't say it was a total failure, but this had never been attempted in Australia."

"Now the programme has been streamlined and all players from U13 to U16 will receive Academy-type development," Thorne said.

An important part of the new-look scheme is that U13 players for the following year will be selected in the previous August for skill development throughout the spring-summer months.

Thorne said the Academy costs the club \$20,000 to \$25,000 a year.

NSW CHAMPIONS OF CHAMPIONS

FIRST ROUND RESULTS:

U8: Rooty Hill RSL 2 Newtown 1 (Dubbo); Bankstown 1 Macarthur 0.

U9: Southern Dists 3 North Griffith 0; Wakehurst 5 Cootamundra 0; St George 3 Wollondilly Rangers 0; Blacktown Pioneers 5 Newtown (Dubbo) 0; Bankstown 1 Macarthur 0.

U10: Southern Dists 6 East Panthers (Griffith) 0; Penrith RSL 4 St Joseph Sheehan (Orange) 0; Winston Hills 2 Illaroo 0; Sutherland 6 Lithgow Police Boys 0; St Andrews 12 Mittagong United 0; Wakehurst 5 Young 0; St George 12 MBK United 0; Ku-ring-gai 1 Ashmont 0; Blacktown United 6 Westside Panthers 0; Southern & Eastern 2 Far South Coast 0; Bankstown 3 Macarthur 2.

U11: Southern Dists 12 East Panthers 0; Penrith RSL 4 East Orange 1; North Rocks 6 Bomaderry 0; Sutherland 1 Bathurst Police Boys 0; Beecroft 5 Bowral 0; Beacon Hill 14 Cootamundra 0; Dapto 4 Hotspurs Gold 0; Lindfield 5 Wagga United 1; Blacktown Spurs 5 Orange Police Boys 0; Macarthur 3 Bankstown 0.

U12: Penrith RSL 8 Waratah 0; Baulkham Hills 4 Shoalhaven United 0; Southern Dists 7 Hanwood 0; Sutherland 2 Churches United 1; Wakehurst 9 Young 0; St George 13 MBK United 0; Hornsby Heights 7 Colland 0; Blacktown United 4 Newtown 1; Southern & Eastern 6 Far South Coast 0; Bankstown 2 Macarthur 2.

U13: Southern Dists 4 Yogoall 0; Blacktown Utd 5 Newtown 1; Luddenham Croatia 4 Bloomfield 0; Kellyville 4 Shoalhaven United 1; Sutherland 6 Bathurst Pandas 1; Gladesville RSL 7 Mittagong United 0; Manly Vale 5 Young 1; Lake Heights 5 Albany City 1; Bankstown 0 Macarthur 0.

U14: Emerton Rovers 9 Newtown 0; St Josephs Sheehan 4 Nepean Police Boys 3; Hanwood 2 Southern Dists 1; Sutherland 6 Bathurst Police Boys 0; MBK United 3 St George 2; Hornsby Heights 6 Ashmont 0; Southern & Eastern 2 (won on corner kicks) Far South Coast 2; Bankstown 2 Macarthur 0.

U15: Yogoall 5 Southern Dists 2; Blacktown Utd 5 Newtown 0; Penrith RSL 3 Rangers 1; Sutherland 3 Bathurst Police Boys 0; Epping YMCA 8 Bowral 0; Port Kembla 3 Wodonga Diamonds 0.

U16: Wilhelmina 4 Newtown 1; North Rocks 0 Bomaderry 0; Sutherland 3 Lithgow Police Boys 0; Manly 4 Cootamundra 0; Bankstown 3 Macarthur 2; Concord 5 Nyngan 0.

U17, 18 & 21 byes.

ALL-AGE: Sylvania 1 Lithgow City Rangers 0; Epping YMCA 5 Mittagong United 2; Manly 4 South West Slopes 0; St George 6 Olympic 0; Hornsby Heights 2 Ashmont 1; Bankstown 2 Macarthur 0.

(NB: Association stated where club name not available)



□ TOP: North Sutherland and Menai in a battle for the ball in a match played in the huge Sutherland Shire Association.

□ LEFT: It's eyes on the ball in this action just outside the penalty box. The players are from the Kirrawee and Heathcote Soccer clubs.

Rockdale Ilinden Youth League

SELECTION TRIALS FOR 1985 SEASON

For Under 13, 14, 15 & 16 teams will be held at Tempe Reserve, Holbeach Street, Tempe.

OCTOBER 7, 14, 21, 28

Under 13 & 14 — start 10am

Under 15 & 16 — start 12 noon

Enquiries: N. Robertson - 666 3174 or L. Tracey - 727 9689

Coach staff:

Ilya Takacs, Ilinden's first grade coach

Paul Degney, Ilinden first grade player and former Australian representative



CB COMPETITION GOES TO BURWOOD



CONGRATULATIONS to Christian Brothers Burwood in winning the U14 competition conducted by the Christian Brothers Sports Association.

Burwood won the grand final with a 2-1 win over De La Salle Kingsgrove.

Pictured is the winning team.

BACK ROW: K. Pratt (coach), J. Romeo, J. Simovic, R. Galic, A. Conides, E. Kokkonis, B. Elysee, D. Klein (coach).

FRONT ROW: M. AbiArrage, J. Rancic, T. Monda, D. Kovacic, D. McCready, M. Sekulic, K. Pender, S. Jee. ASW is looking forward to receiving team and action photos and stories from other schools and competitions. These include the Metropolitan Catholic Colleges, North Shore Catholic Schools, Independent Schools (GPS, Associated and other schools), as well as Public primary and high schools. Also required is a cover from the various Churches clubs and competitions. Our mailing address is: Box 406, Broadway 2007.

□ **BOTTOM:** Marconi U16 coach Alfred Moschen gives some half-time advice to his players during the game against Riverina at Parklea. Marconi drew the final game against Sydney Olympic 1-1 and won both the State and the Metropolitan Championships.



□ **Riverina** scores for a 1-0 lead in the U13 match against Western NSW (dark shirts).

BUNDY REPS SUCCESS

BY ANDREW STILLMAN

BUNDABERG junior teams have had a successful representative season.

At the recent Wide Bay Zone titles at Yandina on Queensland's Sunshine Coast, more than 300 junior rep. players from U11 to U15 representing Bundaberg, Maryborough, Gympie and the Sunshine Coast from Noosa to Glasgoush Mountains, played for two days to determine the title holders in each age-group.

Bundaberg U13's and U15's won their titles, with Sunshine Coast teams taking out U11, U12 and U14.

Most matches were evenly contested.

Bundaberg and Maryborough did not field teams in the U11 competition and Bundaberg ended the titles by not losing one match.

At the annual intercity clash at Gladstone, Bundaberg teams won nine out of the 10 matches played. Teams in the U12-15 age-groups competed.

In local fixtures, Diggers club were again the most successful, winning premierships in the U11's and U14's. Eagles won the U12 premiership, with Aston Villa club taking out the U15's.

Junior Soccer finished on September 8 with the grand finals.

Most clubs will compete the season with social matches against city teams in other regions of the State.



Martin Driene hit the first when the Queensland defence failed to clear Geoff Gunning's cross which was headed down by Paul Foster.

□ **LEFT:** NSW player Geoff Gunning is carried off after being sent off in the match against ACT. Gunning had been injured and was shown the red card by referee Jack Johnston for foul language. He missed the next match but came back to play brilliantly in the final.

PHOTO: WALTER PLESS

ENFIELD ROVERS REIGN SUPREME

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

ENFIELD ROVERS' Under 9 team won their 1984 competition, scoring a massive 59 goals and conceding only seven.

Enfield almost went through undefeated, losing only one game to Abbotsford 0-1.

This team was first formed back in 1980, going through undefeated to win the U6 mini competition, and from this original squad only Paul Maguire and David O'Brien still remain with the team. The others are playing in U10.

During the next season, also in the U6 competition, the team finished as runners-up, after being undefeated minor premiers, without conceding a single goal.

Here is a summary of the players:

1. **David Long:** played as a striker in 1981-82 and then had a season in Rugby League. David came back this season as goalkeeper, denying opponents with monotonous regularity.

2. **James Murphy:** left-back, a very safe player with good skills.

3. **Con Kalantzis:** the

number one stopper in his age-group. Nothing gets past him.

4. **Steven Young:** right-back, a busy player and very safe.

5. **David O'Brien:** sweeper, a thinker and the best cover-defender you could wish for at his age. Turns defence into attack in a flash.

6. **Graeme Aldridge:** the skipper of the team and operates from the midfield. He is a non-stop trier, with a very high work-rate.

7. **Michael Aboud:** right winger, probably the most dangerous flank player in the entire competition.

8. **Stuart Mulcahy:** inside left, a real buzz player up-front, always on the ball, scoring in every match.

9. **Chris Hagios:** central striker, and great goalscorer, averaging three to five goals per match early in the season.

10. **Paul Maguire:** inside right, probably the most skilful player in the

team with a good future if he is prepared to work harder.

11. **Anthony Barbera:** left striker. Anthony is the smallest player in the squad, but has a "never-say-die" attitude, rarely being beaten to the ball. His heart is as big as Phar Lap's. Excellent skills and sharp vision.

12. **Rodney Harkins:** midfielder or defender with plenty of ability and valuable to the team in many positions.

13. **Joe D'Albora:** midfielder or striker, who will surprise the crowd when it's least expected with long range goals.

Most of the players have a definite future in Soccer, providing they are all prepared to work a little harder on their own ball-skills and take a mature approach to team-work.

The Enfield Rovers U9 team were prepared by a most dedicated coach, Harry O'Brien.



□ **ENFIELD ROVERS UNDER 9 TEAM**

NSW POWER TO 2-0 WIN

BY "VAN DIEMEN"

TWO goals within a minute in the first half gave New South Wales a 2-0 win over Queensland in the final of the 1984 Commonwealth Bank Secondary Schools' Under 20 championships in Hobart.

The second came from Foster who outran the defence and shot past the advancing goalkeeper.

The score should have been 3-0 as referee John Howlin disallowed what looked a perfectly good goal by Gunning in the 78th minute.

Gunning received the ball wide on the left and powered a superb shot inside the near post but the referee claimed it went through the side-netting and awarded a corner.

Queensland suffered a setback in only the second minute when Fullerton was injured and had to be replaced by Tonel.

NSW, who went through the tournament undefeated, were the better team throughout, however.

Gunning, in particular, tore through the Queensland defence continually and it was unfortunate that his fine display was marred by the disallowed goal.

NSW: Conradi (Curley

62); Grant, Haniotis, Fudge, Carmona; Easthorpe, Ellem, Driene, Gunning; Foster (Barakat 54), Watson.

QUEENSLAND: Ross; Graham, Hunter, Dangerfield, Fullerton (Tonel 7); Petersen, Millican, Makridakis, Oliveri; Junna, Carless (Carswell 78).

The Australian Schoolboys squad was announced after the final.

It is: Graham Ross, Michael Makridakis, Alan Millican (Queensland), Richard Leszczynski (Tasmania), David Curley, Nickolas Conradi, Alfredo Carmona, George Haniotis, Martin Driene, Scott Watson, Scott Grant (NSW), Manis Lamond (ACT), Tom Zilic, Ernie Tapai, Victor Cristaldo, Chris Ketsakiois (Victoria) and Dimitrios Thomas (WA).

The coach is Tasmania's Duncan Summers and the manager is Kevin Petersen of Western Australia.



□ **GLEN POWELL:** NSW coach.

SHARON MATELJAN

A NEW AWSA EXECUTIVE

DON BALMAIN'S
WOMEN'S
SOCCER

PLAN A SOCCER HOLIDAY

DON BALMAIN'S WOMEN'S SOCCER



**MITRE are proud
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THINGS LOOK BLACK FOR CHIEDOZIE

NIGERIA'S hopes of progress in the World Cup eliminations depend heavily on winger John Chiedozie being able to play for them.

Chiedozie was transferred from Notts County to Tottenham Hotspur for a substantial fee just before the English season started.

Now Spurs have had a request from Nigeria for the player's release for World Cup duty on October 20 and November 3 for matches against Liberia.

New Spurs boss Peter Shreeves is not keen to give Chiedozie permission to play. Shreeves said: "When I signed John, I was told there was a gentlemen's agreement about this with Nigeria, but there are times when the club must come first."

Chiedozie confirmed he had a letter from Nigeria

seeking his release but said he didn't know if Spurs would let him play.

On October 20, Spurs have one of the biggest games of the season, play-

ing Manchester United at Old Trafford; on November 3, they meet West Brom.



□ JOHN CHIEDOZIE (left) shields the ball from Arsenal's Stewart Robson.

SAND IN THEIR SHOES

THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES must have some special attraction for international team managers.

England boss Don Revie skipped over there when he quit his position with the English F.A.

And Carlos Alberto Pereira, who was Kuwait's manager in the 1982 World Cup, also went to the UAR

as national coach, the position once held by Revie.

Of course, the cash rewards are worth thinking about. Carlos Alberto gets \$7,000 a week free of tax plus a house!

WALLACE MAY LEAVE BREST

FRENCH club Brest could have a surprise call from Nottingham Forest boss Brian Clough.

Clough wants to buy back a player he released to Brest a few months ago.

The player is Scottish international forward Ian Wallace, who has not started his career in France with a bang.

"I will buy Ian tomorrow if the price is right and he is prepared to take a drop in the wages we used to pay him at Forest," said Clough.

He went on: "With Garry Birtles out of the side until Christmas, the new striker in line for a first team place is my son... and he's only an amateur."



□ IAN WALLACE

A CONSORTIUM of United States businessmen is trying to form a team of old internationals to tour the world. One former star showing keen interest is Johann Cruyff.

It seems FIFA is far from happy about this idea.



□ JOHANN CRUYFF

MONTEVIDEO will host an interesting international tournament in January/February next year.

Teams involved will be hosts Uruguay, USA, Romania and East Germany.

OPUKU N'TI, a 21-year-old forward who is in Ghana's national team, is to try his luck in Europe.

The African star has been signed by Servette Geneva of Switzerland.

BARCELONA BOSS MISSES BOAT

TERRY VENABLES, new boss of Barcelona, doesn't usually miss a trick but he could have blundered when he signed his contract to coach the Spanish club.

It is normal in Spain for a team coach to be paid double the winning bonus received by his players.

Venables was unaware of this and it could cost him

a lot of pesetas.

When Barcelona had their great 3-0 win against traditional rivals Real Madrid, Steve Archibald and the other Barcelona player

each received the usual \$1,600 win bonus.

Venables should have collected \$3,200. But he got nothing — because it wasn't in his contract!

THE PROFESSIONAL OLYMPIC GAMES!

IT has been estimated that the players in Italy's Olympic Games squad picked up a total \$4,500,000 in match payments last season.

They cost a mammoth \$23,000,000 when they signed for their various clubs.

Whatever happened to amateur soccer?

The criterion for playing Olympic Games Soccer now is so easy to fulfil, there seems little point in pretending it is played by

anything other than fully professional players.

England, not noted as trend-setters, shed the "shamateur" taint many

years ago when they virtually abolished the word "amateur."

There are no amateurs or professionals in England — all are officially classed as "players."

It's time the rest of the world caught up.



THE WORLD GAME

80,000 CROWDS TIPPED

CHINA is eagerly looking forward to the visit of Australia's national team in November.

Soccer is growing in the People's Republic with keen interest being shown

in any visits from foreign teams.

In fact, it is expected that crowds of 80,000-plus will watch each of the matches played in China by the Socceros.

WHILE Indoor Soccer prospers in the USA, the traditional outdoor game is again in a state of financial confusion.

Attempts by officials of both sports to get together came unstuck recently — as this article from the New York Times reports.

Soccer Talks Are Terminated

By ALEX YANNIS

The on-again, off-again agreement between the Major Indoor Soccer League and four North American Soccer League teams that would have the clubs play indoor in the M.I.S.L. this winter was declared "definitely off" by the commissioner of the indoor league yesterday.

Earl Foreman, the M.I.S.L. commissioner, said that "irreconcilable differences" forced him to terminate the negotiations with the Cosmos, the Chicago Sting, the Minnesota Strikers and the San Diego Sockers.

The N.A.S.L., in a statement issued in Chicago on behalf of the league by the owner of the Sting, Lee Stern, and his attorney, Phil Bloom, accused Foreman of acting on his own without a mandate from his owners.

"The condition imposed by the Commissioner was an adventure of his own," the N.A.S.L. statement said in part.

"We want the M.I.S.L. owners to

take a look at what Foreman has done without their approval," Stern said yesterday by telephone from Chicago. "He was supposed to have a meeting with our lawyers this morning and didn't bother to show up."

Foreman said the N.A.S.L. accusations were "totally untrue." He said every statement by the N.A.S.L., and especially by Stern, was "self-serving."

"They miscalculated again the way they have done for the last 12 years or so," Foreman said. "They left the meeting this morning because their lawyer had something else to do. This thing is definitely off. We're announcing our schedule Monday at noon and it does not include any N.A.S.L. teams."

Bloom represented Chicago and San Diego in a meeting with Foreman that started Friday afternoon and ended at 3 o'clock yesterday morning. Representatives of the Cosmos were also present.

The M.I.S.L. approved admittance of the four teams Aug. 6 providing

they met financial conditions totaling about \$1.6 million, but rejected the clubs 10 days ago, contending that not all four had met all the conditions. They also rejected the Golden Bay Earthquakes, who were set to take over and operate the M.I.S.L.'s Phoenix Pride.

Giorgio Chinaglia, the president of the Cosmos, initiated new talks last weekend, however, and the M.I.S.L. approved admission of the four teams again last Wednesday on a 9 to 2 vote. The four teams had agreed to collectively pay \$600,000 in cash immediately, and \$1 million in deferred payments.

The M.I.S.L. wanted the four teams to make their deferred payments from playoff gate receipts rather than marketing and television revenues, which the M.I.S.L. considered tenuous. The four disagreed and did not, according to Foreman, accept a compromise offer under which they could keep half of any playoff receipts.

VANDALS HIT QPR PLAYERS

QUEENS PARK RANGERS players were delighted to get a good 1-1 draw at Anfield with Liverpool but they stopped celebrating when they returned to their Loftus Road ground on the Saturday night.

Just about every car owned by a player had been vandalised, with side panels kicked in by people in heavy boots.

"It ruined a splendid day for us," said manager Alan Mullery.

Mullery's car was untouched. It was locked up

inside the ground but the players had to park in the street outside.

Team captain Terry Fenwick said: "Parking facilities around the ground are hopeless but we will have to work out something better the next time the team travels away."

TOP SCOT HEADING SOUTH

JOHN ROBERTSON is rated the top young forward in Scotland — and that's why several English clubs are after him.

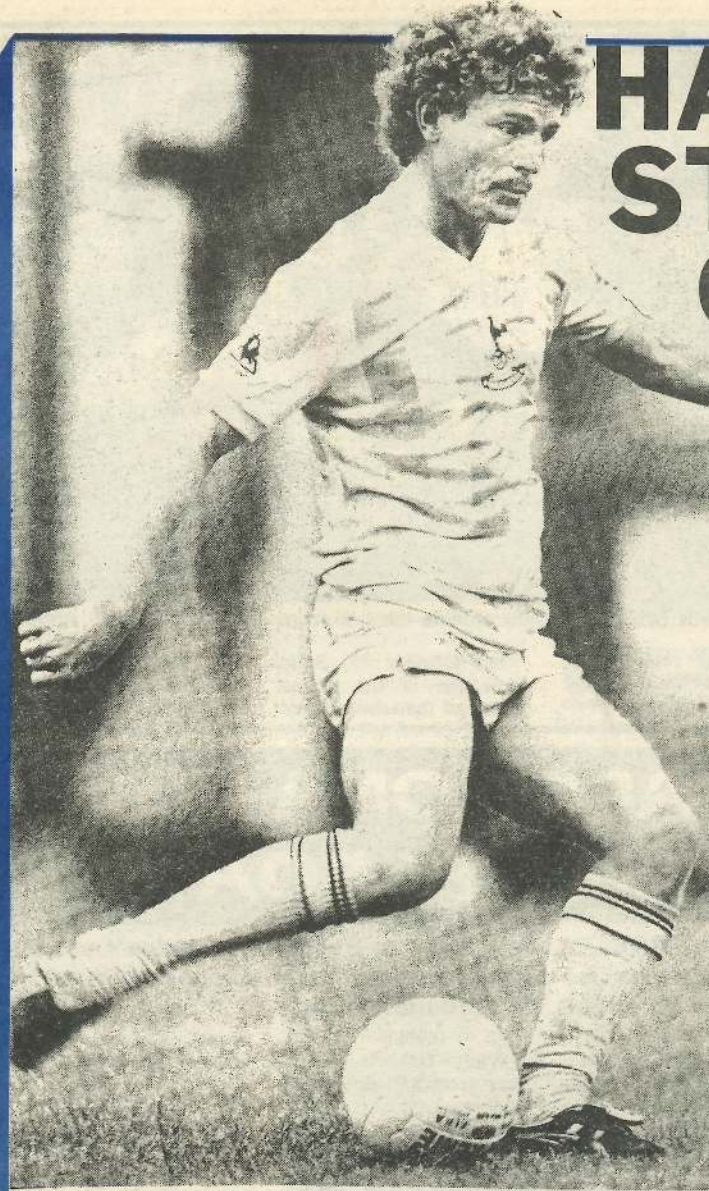
Hearts, his club, claim they have no intention of selling, despite the temptation of a big transfer fee offered by London clubs Spurs and QPR.

Last season, Robertson scored 20 goals and was selected for the Scottish Under 21 team.

He has refused to sign a new contract with Hearts

□ JOHN ROBERTSON

and this indicates the youngster is getting ready to take the well-worn road south.



HAZARD STAKES CLAIM

MIKE HAZARD's long-term future with Spurs has always been "hazardous" but the midfielder now has a big chance to establish himself as a genuine first team star.

Outstanding midfielders Glenn Hoddle and Ossie Ardiles are likely to be on the injured list for another five weeks and Hazard is filling in with some very good performances.

Hazard's number one aim is to win a new Spurs contract.

At 24, he is just the right age to make an impact and make fans forget, for the time being, Hoddle and Ardiles.



□ JACKIE CHARLTON

DON'T PICK CHRIS PLEA

JACKIE CHARLTON shocked a lot of people by pleading to England boss Bobby Robson NOT to select his Newcastle United forward Chris Waddle for World Cup duty.

"I don't want him to play for England yet," said Charlton.

"We don't have enough players to let him go. I'd rather if Bobby would wait until the end of the season — then I'm sure Chris would do well for England," said Jackie.

Robson has already named Waddle as a possible for the World Cup, which should not have surprised the Newcastle manager.

As Charlton said: "He's a terrific player, as skilful as any striker in the first division. He's got that bit of magic that stamps him as something special."

BLISSETT IS OUT BUT HAPPY!

WHEN A club pays nearly a million dollars for a player, he should be an automatic choice for the first team.

But things didn't work out that way for Luther Blissett at Watford as he tried to recover from a disappointing Italian campaign with A.C. Milan.

Blissett lost his first team

spot to George Reilly for the match against Arsenal. He took it well.

Said Blissett: "Players must know they are under pressure and face a fight for their places. That's

healthy and I have no complaints. Now I must wait my turn to get back."



GEORGE UPSET

HIBERNIAN centre-half Jackie McNamara collected useful cash from his Testimonial match, mainly because he persuaded a 38-year-old Irishman to play in the match.

The Irish guest was George Best, still quite an attraction in Britain.

Now comes the bad news. The Scottish F.A. intends taking action against Hibernian and Best because George was not registered in time to play.

ONLY three players in the Football League can claim more than 200 goals in their career.

The big three are Mick Channon (Norwich City), Bob Latchford (Coventry City) and Bryan "Pop" Robson (Carlisle United).

PORTSMOUTH will be sued by their former team manager Bobby Campbell for alleged wrongful dismissal.

Campbell was given the boot in May, with two years still to run on his three-year contract.

SUNDERLAND JINX FOR RED DEVILS

ALAN SUNDERLAND is certainly not Manchester United's favourite player ... he keeps popping up to cause them problems.

In the 1979 F.A. Cup Final, Sunderland scored the

winning goal for Arsenal against United in the last

minute.

Last season, Sunderland scored a vital goal in Ipswich's 2-1 win against United, a result which killed the Manchester team's title hopes.

He is carrying on the good work this season. Manchester United were cruising to victory against Ipswich but their 1-0 lead became a 1-1 draw after a great goal from ... Alan Sunderland!

"I like scoring against every team but I seem to make a habit of doing it against United," said the Ipswich forward.

TV KILLS CROWD

CHELSEA'S home game with Everton was beamed live into millions of homes through BBC television and this was reflected in the very disappointing attendance figure of 17,734.

No wonder Chelsea chairman Ken Bates warned before the kick-off: "Television is killing football."

DAVE DROPS OUT FOR TWO MONTHS

INJURY-HIT West Ham, already without Alan Devonshire, Phil Parkes and Neil Orr, had more bad news after an exploratory operation on Dave Swindlehurst's knee.

The surgeon warned that Swindlehurst has a badly stretched cruciate ligament and any strenuous work could keep him out of action for a long time.

West Ham are already resigned to being

without him for two months. A special brace has been made for the knee and this will allow the player to do some training.

It is not possible to operate. Swindlehurst hopes for a comeback at the end of October.

UK soccer tables

ENGLISH LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

Notts Forest	6	4	0	2	8	12
Tottenham	5	4	1	1	15	7
Man Utd	5	3	1	1	11	5
Arsenal	4	4	1	1	11	3
Sheff Wed	4	3	1	1	11	3
Everton	4	3	1	1	11	3
West Ham	4	3	1	1	11	3
Aston Villa	4	3	1	1	11	3
Liverpool	4	3	1	1	11	3
Newcastle	4	3	1	1	11	3
West Brom	4	3	1	1	11	3
Chelsea	4	3	1	1	11	3
QPR	4	3	1	1	11	3
Sunderland	4	3	1	1	11	3
Ipswich	4	3	1	1	11	3
Leicester	4	3	1	1	11	3
Norwich	4	3	1	1	11	3
Southampton	4	3	1	1	11	3
Luton	4	3	1	1	11	3
Watford	4	3	1	1	11	3
Stoke	4	3	1	1	11	3
Coventry	4	3	1	1	11	3

DIVISION TWO

Birmingham	5	5	0	0	10	2
Brighton	5	4	0	0	10	4
Leeds	5	4	0	0	10	4
Oxford	5	4	0	0	10	4
Charlton	5	4	0	0	10	4
Shrewsbury	5	4	0	0	10	4
Grimsby	5	4	0	0	10	4
Blackburn	5	4	0	0	10	4
Sheff Utd	5	4	0	0	10	4
Wolves	5	4	0	0	10	4
Portsmouth	5	4	0	0	10	4
Man City	5	4	0	0	10	4
Barnsley	5	4	0	0	10	4
Carlisle	5	4	0	0	10	4
Fulham	5	4	0	0	10	4
Huddersfield	5	4	0	0	10	4
Oldham	5	4	0	0	10	4
Wimbledon	5	4	0	0	10	4
Cardiff	5	4	0	0	10	4
Notts County	5	4	0	0	10	4
Middlesbrough	5	4	0	0	10	4
Crystal Palace	5	4	0	0	10	4

DIVISION THREE

Gillingham	4	3	1	1	10	3
York	4	3	1	1	10	3
Bristol Rovers	4	3	1	1	10	3
Doncaster	4	3	1	1	10	3
Preston	4	3	1	1	10	3
Bristol City	4	3	1	1	10	3
Millwall	4	3	1	1	10	3
Bradford	4	3	1	1	10	3
Bournemouth	4	3	1	1	10	3
Brentford	4	3	1	1	10	3
Reading	4	3	1	1	10	3
Hull	4	3	1	1	10	3
Derby	4	3	1	1	10	3
Rotherham	4	3	1	1	10	3
Walsall	4	3	1	1	10	3
Lincoln	4	3	1	1	10	3
Plymouth	4	3	1	1	10	3
Burnley	4	3	1	1	10	3
Orient	4	3	1	1	10	3
Wigan	4	3	1	1	10	3
Cambridge	4	3	1	1	10	3
Newport	4	3	1	1	10	3
Bolton	4	3	1	1	10	3
Swansea	4	3	1	1	10	3

DIVISION FOUR

Hereford	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Chatterfield	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Bury	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Blackpool	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Peterborough	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Wrexham	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Exeter	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Swindon	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Darlington	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Mansfield	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Crews	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Tranmere	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Port Vale	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Chesham	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Aldershot	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Stockport	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Torquay	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Colchester	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Southend	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Rochdale	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Halifax	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Scunthorpe	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Hartlepool	4	4	0	0	7	0	12
Northampton	4	4	0	0	7	0	12

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Aberdeen	6	5	1	0	14	1	11
Rangers	6	5	1	0	14	1	11
Celtic	6	5	1	0	14	1	11
St Mirren	6	5	1	0	14	1	11
Dundee Utd	6	5	1	0	14	1	11
Dumbarton	6	5	1	0	14	1	11
Dundee	6	5	1	0	14	1	11
Hearts	6	5	1	0	14	1	11
Morton	6	5	1	0	14	1	11
Hibernian	6	5	1	0	14	1	11

DIVISION ONE

Motherwell	6	4	1	1	10	5	9
Brechin	6	4	1	1	10	5	9
Airdrie	6	4	1	1	10	5	9
Clydebank	6	4	1	1	10	5	9
Ayr	6	4	1	1	10	5	9
East Fife	6	4	1	1	10	5	9
Forfar	6	4	1	1	10	5	9
Hamilton	6	4	1	1	10	5	9
Falkirk	6	4	1	1	10	5	9
Partick	6	4	1	1	10	5	9
Meadowbank	6	4	1	1	10	5	9
Kilmarnock	6	4	1	1	10	5	9
St Johnstone	6	4	1	1	10	5	9

DIVISION TWO

Dunfermline	6	0	0	0	16	4	12
Alloa	6	0	0	0	16	4	12
Stenhousemuir	6	0	0	0	16	4	12
Cowdenbeath	6	0	0	0	16	4	12
Queens Park	6	0	0	0	16	4	12
Dumfries	6	0	0	0	16	4	12
Montrose	6	0	0	0	16	4	12
Berwick	6	0	0	0	16	4	12
Arbroath	6	0	0	0	16	4	12
Albion	6	0	0	0	16	4	12
Raith	6	0	0	0	16	4	12
Stranraer	6	0	0	0	16	4	12
Stirling	6	0	0	0	16	4	12
East Stirling	6	0	0	0	16	4	12